

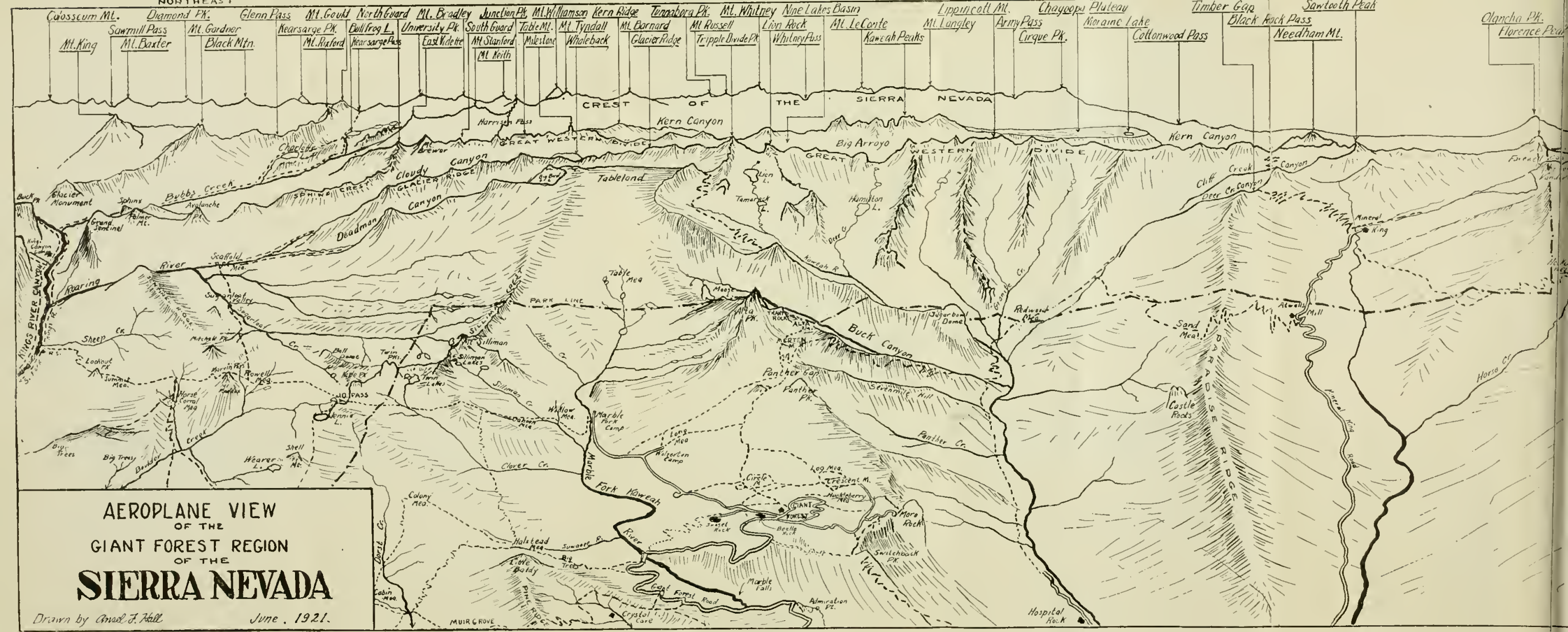
Guide
TO
GIANT FOREST
SEQUOIA
NATIONAL
PARK



By
Ansel F. Hall.
• U. S. National Park Service. •







AEROPLANE VIEW
OF THE
GIANT FOREST REGION
OF THE
SIERRA NEVADA

Drawn by *Arvid J. Hall* June, 1921.





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GUIDE TO GIANT FOREST

SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

A HANDBOOK
OF THE NORTHERN SECTION OF
SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK
AND THE ADJACENT
SIERRA NEVADA



by

ANSEL F. HALL
U. S. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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by

ANSEL F. HALL

INTRODUCTION

SEUQUOIA NATIONAL PARK, because of its absolutely primitive and unspoiled wildness, is one of our most charmingly attractive national playgrounds. Of roads there are few excepting the main route to and from Giant Forest but there are many miles of woodland trails leading through cathedral groves of giant sequoias and to the high country beyond. For those whose bent is towards exploration the region in and about the Forest is a most enjoyable field for pioneering; indeed, some of the most important view points and scenic features have been but recently discovered and thousands of sequoia giants are as yet uncharted and unknown.

It is regrettable that the lack of available information in the past has led campers in Giant Forest to overlook many points of interest almost within the light of their campfires. The realization of this condition led the author to start gathering data for this little volume in 1917 when he was stationed in the Sequoia as Park Ranger. The help obtained from Superintendent John R. White and from each of the rangers of Sequoia National Park has been invaluable. Each has added many facts from his own experience and observation. Raymond Bailey, James Hutchinson, Joseph LeConte, Francis Farquhar, and other enthusiastic members of the Sierra Club have lent much assistance in supplying trail notes, photographs, etc. The cover design and much trail data can be attributed to Mr. Herbert Maier of Giant Forest. Mr. George Belden, whose many years photographic exploration of the Forest make him one of the chief authorities on its trails has added much valuable information. Mr. George Stewart who did more, perhaps, than any other individual in the establishment of Sequoia

National Park, contributed the section "The Kaweah Colony" and supplied much information about the early days in the Park. The author acknowledges the use of many old books and records in the Bancroft Historical Library of the University of California in the preparation of the story of the region.

This booklet has been planned as a trail companion and detailed information has been introduced regarding every road and trail in the northern portion of the Park. Most trails have never been measured officially and the distances and times given in the schedules are the averages of estimates by all rangers of the region. Corrections or additions would be greatly appreciated by the author and should be addressed to him at Yosemite, California.

ANSEL F. HALL

*Park Naturalist,
Yosemite National Park.*

*Giant Forest, California,
July 1, 1921.*

CONTENTS

THE STORY OF THE KAWEAH REGION

GEOLOGY.....	7
ANCESTRY AND DISCOVERY OF THE GIANT SEQUOIA	8
EARLY DAYS IN THE KAWEAH REGION.....	9
THE MINERAL KING MINES.....	11
THE KAWEAH COLONY.....	12
CREATION OF SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK.....	16
THE MILITARY REGIME.....	17
THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.....	20
THE GIANT SEQUOIA.....	22
WILD ANIMALS.....	25
BIRDS.....	28
FISHING.....	31
TREES.....	33
FLOWERS.....	35

ROADS AND TRAILS OF THE GIANT FOREST REGION

THE ROUTE TO GIANT FOREST.....	38
ROAD MAP SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK.....	39
WHAT TO SEE AT GIANT FOREST.....	44
BEETLE AND SUNSET ROCKS.....	47
MORO ROCK AND CRESCENT MEADOW ROAD.....	49
MORO ROCK AND THE ADJACENT VIEW POINTS.....	52
PANORAMA FROM MORO ROCK.....	53
GENERAL SHERMAN ROAD.....	56
THE LOOP ROAD.....	59

THE TRAILS

1 CRESCENT MEADOW TRAIL.....	60
2 CRESCENT MEADOW TRAIL (Reverse of Trip 1).....	65
3 CIRCLE MEADOW TRAIL.....	69
4 CIRCLE MEADOW TRAIL (Reverse of Trip 3).....	74
5 MORO TRAIL.....	77
6 GENERAL SHERMAN TRAIL.....	80

7	ALTA TRAIL.....	7
	PANORAMA FROM ALTA PEAK.....	
8	LOG MEADOW TRAIL.....	8
9	WOLVERTON TRAIL.....	9
10	SUNSET ROCK TRAIL.....	10
11	BLACK OAK TRAIL.....	11
12	HALSTEAD MEADOW TRAIL (Reverse of Trip 11).....	12
13	TWIN LAKES TRAIL.....	13
14	KINGS CANYON TRAIL.....	14
	TRAILS TO GENERAL GRANT NATIONAL PARK.....	15
15	GENERAL GRANT PARK TRAIL.....	15
16	ROARING RIVER AND DEADMAN CANYON TRAIL..	16
17	BUCK CANYON AND REDWOOD MEADOW TRAIL...	17
18	HOSPITAL ROCK TRAIL.....	18

THE STORY OF THE KAWEAH REGION

GEOLOGY

With all its myriad canyons and peaks and lakes and meadows and forests the Sierra Nevada—the “Snowy Range” of the Spaniards—is to geologists but a single mountain. Its great backbone, four hundred miles of jagged crest, is the weathered edge of a fault scarp, a gigantic north-south rift caused by the tilting of a huge block of the earth’s crust. The eastern edge of this section was thrust upward, not in one great convulsion, but in two periods of gradual uplift with a long epoch of equilibrium between. This mountain building happened recently, geologically speaking, and the weathering and sculpture of the elements in the few million years since have sufficed to remove only the top layer of shales and slates, leaving the great granite core as a “young” mountain range. The culminating summits of this great chain are in its southern section; Mount Whitney, the Kaweah Peaks, Tyndall, Brewer, and many others rise to sublime heights in that vast alpine wonderland which lies east of the Giant Forest region.

After the uplift came the glacial periods, many thousands of years ago, to be sure, but in the geological yesterday. As the climate became more and more severe, the summer

sunshine was not sufficient to melt the accumulated snows of the boreal winters; the catchment basins gradually accumulated great neves, snow fields which packed into solid ice forming the matrix which sent forth ever-extending arms toward the low country. The canyons which had already been formed by water erosion were now scoured and over deepened by the grinding action of the ice and the abrasives carried within its body until their V-shaped profiles were changed to typical U-shaped Yosemite-like cross sections. As to the lower edge of this glaciated region there is still much discussion. Under Professor Andrew C. Lawson an intensive study of the upper Kern Basin, twenty miles east of Giant Forest, showed that the great glacier which formerly occupied that area had its termination at about 6,500 feet elevation—just the altitude of the Forest. It is entirely probable that, as Muir suggested, the Giant Forest grows on a broad sheet-like lateral moraine which covers the plateau at the junction of the Marble Fork and the Middle Fork of the Kaweah. The details remain to be solved, however, by the more intensive investigations of geologists.

ANCESTRY AND DISCOVERY OF THE GIANT SEQUOIA

From a study of fossils we find that six species of sequoia were widely scattered over the Northern Hemisphere before the glacial ages but these vanished as the ice advanced from

the north excepting the two species, the Coast Redwood and the Bigtree, which were left segregated in "botanical islands" in California. The latter species is further isolated in small communities or "groves" which occur at widely scattered intervals at middle elevations of the Sierra Nevada (5,000 to 8,400 feet) from the Lake Tahoe region at the north to the Tule River Basin at the south. Giant Forest is the largest group and covers a region some four miles square.

The Bigtree was first discovered in 1841 in the Calaveras Grove by John Bidwell who was afterward a candidate for member of Congress from California.* Just how and when the other sequoia groves were found is difficult to determine. Certain it is that the Giant Forest and seven other groves were known to Professor Brewer of Yale as early as 1864 when he explored much of the Sierra Nevada with the California Geological Survey.

EARLY DAYS IN THE KAWEAH REGION

It was not long after the "golden days of '49" that the fertile bottomlands of the San Joaquin Valley and foothill regions were claimed by the whites. When, in December, 1851, Nathaniel and Abner Vise settled where now stands the thriving city of Visalia, they found

*J. Hutchings in *In the Heart of the Sierras* gives credit for the discovery to A. T. Dowd of Murphey's who found the trees in 1842.

the land populated by a primitive but friendly tribe of Indians, the Yokuts. These "diggers" as they were contemptuously called because they obtained part of their food from roots and bulbs, were gradually forced back into the foothills by the advance of the newcomers. An occasional "rancheria" (group of lodges) might be seen up to a few years ago in some of the lower canyons, but the entire tribe now numbers but a handful—survivors in the losing battles against the white man's diseases, whiskey, and aggression.

Not long after the establishment of Visalia gold was discovered at Kern River by D. B. or "Brigham" James. The stampede of 185 which followed resulted in nothing but disappointment, but in the following eight years other finds proved to be more substantial and two trails were cut across the Sierra to Fort Independence and Lone Pine in the Owen Valley. One of these, the Hockett Trail crossed the high plateau which forms the southern part of Sequoia National Park on the approximate route of the present rails. Both followed old Indian trails for the greater part of the distance.

The Three Rivers district was settled by Hal Tharp who was followed by several families of pioneers. "Ranching" in those days meant more than farming; it meant exploring for summer grazing country, hunting, trapping—

in short, taking from Nature the greater part of one's living.

It was on one of his hunting or exploration trips to the high country that Tharp discovered Giant Forest in 1858. For a number of years he made his summer home there, living in a hollow sequoia log which he fitted with windows and doors. The Forest figures in the next few years as the headquarters for but one or two solitary woodsmen. A. Everton, a trapper, lived for five winters in the "House Tree" and Cahoon, Palmer, Blossom, and others were occasional visitors. Another hunter and trapper, James Wolverton, lived at Log Meadow in a second Nature-made sequoia cabin and it is claimed that he discovered the General Sherman Tree on August 7, 1879 and named it after his commandant of the Civil War. Giant Forest was named by John Muir, probably in the 80's.

THE MINERAL KING MINES

In the early 70's great excitement was again stirred up by the discovery of gold- and silver-bearing mineral near the source of the East Fork of the Kaweah. Operations were started at the Mineral King, White Chief, and other mines, and a town of about 500, called Beulah, sprang up. A road was built from Three Rivers at a cost of over \$100,000, but the decline started in 1879 and the mines, having proved unproductive, were abandoned.

The next decade was one of gradual development in the foothills and of the partial realization on the part of the settlers that the forests of the mountains had a value and would some day be exploited.

THE KAWEAH COLONY

Closely linked with the history of the Giant Forest is that of the Kaweah Colony which was organized by promoters mainly for the purpose of acquiring title to that splendid body of timber. Two residents of Tulare County who had become acquainted with that area and a friend in San Francisco planned to secure possession of it. They induced a number of people from San Francisco who, like themselves had belonged to co-operative associations, and a few local residents, to visit the Forest for the purpose of applying to enter the land under the Timber and Stone law. On four dates in October 1885, a total of 55 persons filed in the U. S. Land Office at Visalia "Sworn Statements" under that law by which they were each permitted to initiate claims to 160 acres of land. Under the regulations it was necessary to publish for sixty days notices of intention to enter the land and thereafter on a specified date present evidence, supported by that of two witnesses in each case, that the land was of more value for its timber or stone than for any other purpose, and at the same time to pay

the purchase price of \$2.50 per acre, or \$400 for each quarter-section. It was only by the presentation of acceptable proof and payment of the purchase price that a vested interest in the land could be acquired.

Fourteen of those presenting Sworn Statements were not citizens of the United States and each filed a declaration of intention to become a citizen in order to initiate a claim; and seven of them gave the same address, No. 17 Broadway, San Francisco. It was stated by one of the number that not more than six of those coming from San Francisco had sufficient funds to pay for the land.

Because of the large number of aliens, the number giving a single address on the San Francisco water front, and for other reasons, it did not appear to J. D. Hyde, Register of the Land Office, that the applications were made in good faith, and he so reported to Washington.

On returning from the Forest and before presenting their Sworn Statements at the Land Office, those who were "induced" to come from San Francisco and elsewhere, were given slips of paper at a certain tailor shop in Visalia, on which was written the description of the land he was to apply for. At the same time each one signed an agreement to devote fifty per cent of the proceeds of the sale of timber for socialistic propaganda.

On the evening of the first day on which applications were filed in the Land Office, the Tulare Valley and Giant Forest Railroad Company was organized and in the succeeding weeks various methods of perfecting a timber pool were discussed. It was proposed to mortgage the land after paying for it at the Land Office and with the money thus procure pay for the lands of later applicants; all of which was contrary to law.

During the period of publication the Commissioner of the General Land Office suspended the land from entry pending investigation.

When the applicants appeared to offer proceeds the same was not accepted and the purchase price tendered for each tract was refused.

In August the following year the timber pool scheme broke up and the Kaweah Co-operative Commonwealth Colony was organized. Forty-two of the applicants for timber land became members of the colony. Extensive plans were projected. A sawmill in the mountains was to cut pine and fir timber which would be hauled out over a community-built road and later a railroad. Marble Mountain was to yield the finest quality of marble for the market and for the buildings of the town of "Avalon" which would stand in the midst of orchards and vineyards at the mouth of Cactus Creek. Schools were planned—and a magazine—and a university.

The road to Giant Forest was started in 1886 and completed as far as Colony Mill in 1890. A small sawmill was there installed and cutting began on John Zobrist's claim. During most of the time that the road was under construction the main townsite was at "Advance" in the canyon of the North Fork about four miles below the present park entrance. Since lumber was more expensive than canvas, the "city" was made up largely of tents and cloth shelters and was known to the neighbors of Three Rivers as "Ragtown." In 1891 a tract of land about a mile below the present Kaweah Post Office was leased and the town of Kaweah, which at the time numbered about three hundred inhabitants, was founded. The proposed magazine became a reality, for someone turned in a printing press and soon the subscriptions to "The Kaweah Commonwealth" were numbered in the hundreds.

But the activities of the colonists were beset with difficulties. The Colony had never held title to any land in Giant Forest and when, in 1890, Congress passed an act creating Sequoia National Park all possibility of obtaining ownership of that wonderful timberland was precluded. The commonwealth next leased Atwell Mill which stood on private land within the park in the canyon of the East Fork and cutting operations were again started. Soon dissension arose over alleged misappropriation of funds

and the community was split into two factions. Gradually the failure of the hopes and ideals of the colonists was realized and one by one members moved away, most of them impoverished and embittered against the men and institutions which seemed to have conspired against them.

CREATION OF SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

The creation of Sequoia National Park is an example of what a few enthusiastic public spirited men may accomplish by persistent effort. In 1885, following the attempts of the Kaweah Colonists to obtain ownership of timber claims in Giant Forest, eighteen townships of land on the mountains had been suspended from entry by Commissioner Sparks of the General Land Office. On May 31, 1890, the Secretary of the Interior released one of these townships. Topographic notice was sent to interested parties even before the news arrived officially and in the next six weeks' scramble for land 25,000 acres were located.

Lumbermen now sought to have restrictions removed from another fine block of timber, a region containing even more giant sequoias than the first. John Tuohy of Tulare, F. Walker of Hanford, George W. Stewart, the editor of the Visalia Delta, and Tipton Lindse, formerly receiver of the U. S. Land Office, now started the fight to save the Big Trees. As

result of their correspondence and the editorials which appeared in the *Visalia Delta*, the *New York Times*, the *New York Post*, the *Century Magazine*, and other journals, the lands in question were withheld from entry and the sequoias were saved for the time being.

On July 28, 1890, General Vandever introduced a bill in the lower house of Congress setting aside one township and a few odd sections in the south part of what is now Sequoia National Park. Dr. Gustav Eisen secured the enthusiastic interest of the California Academy of Sciences and, with what other influence was brought to bear by the originators of the park, the measure passed through both House and Senate. On September 9th, 1890, the fortieth anniversary of the admission of the State to the Union, the news was received with joy in California.

The new reserve was christened "Sequoia National Park" by Secretary Noble on September 26, 1890. A few days later, by a section of the bill creating Yosemite National Park, the boundaries were enlarged to include the seven townships now in the Park and General Grant National Park, four square miles in area, was created.

THE MILITARY RÉGIME

About the first of May, 1891, a troop of U. S. Cavalry marched from the Presidio of San Francisco to the newly created park. The

problems confronting the commandant, Captain Dorst, whose position made him also the first Acting Superintendent of Sequoia and General Grant National Parks, were formidable. Sheepmen who for many years past had driven their herds over the high mountain meadows, stripping the public domain of every green blade of grass, were extremely reluctant now to give up their fancied "privilege" at the invitation of Congress. No penalties had been provided for the infraction of rules, and the sheepmen expected only to have their herds driven from the Park every time they were discovered. Captain Dorst, however, adopted the ingenious scheme of scattering the sheep and driving them from the Park at different places, then escorting the herders to the farthest boundary and setting them free without food or horses. A few heavy losses through this vigorously enforced policy soon taught trespassers to respect the edicts of the military and the control of the grazing menace was thereafter a simple matter. The frequent patrols of the large protective force soon reduced hunting in the Park to a minimum.

The pioneering of the first few years was largely in the nature of exploration for practicable natural routes from canyon to canyon and from one mountain chain to another. No money was available for the building of roads or trails and the Old Colony Mill Road became practically impassable. Captains Dorst, Parke

ockett, and their followers appealed in their annual reports for appropriations but all to no avail.

Co-operation with the State Fish and Game Commission and with the Visalia Sportsmen's Club resulted in the stocking of many of the Park streams with trout and by 1896 superintendents were able to report good fishing and increase of game.

Just as Park administration was becoming standardized and the troopers were becoming more efficient the Spanish American War was declared and a few civilians were engaged to take the place of the soldiers who normally protected the Park from May to October. There was immediately a rush of poachers and a slaughter of deer. Sheep roamed at will in the Park and a destructive fire in Giant Forest threatened some of the finest sequoias. The First Utah Volunteer Company spent a month "guarding" the reserve but were accused of killing even more game than the civilians. In 1899 a detachment of a battery of artillery under Lieutenant Henry B. Clark again started the enforcement of rules and in November of that year the Park was committed for the winter to the charge of a newly appointed "Forest Ranger."

The real development of the Park began in 1900 with an appropriation of \$10,000. A like amount was made available each year, the

greater part being spent for the repair of the Old Colony Mill Road and its extension toward Giant Forest. The Forest was finally reached in the latter part of 1903 and a transportation system operated by Broder and Hopping brought in an ever increasing number of visitors.

The next decade was one of gradual development, a few permanent improvements being made each year with the very limited amount of money available. The acting superintendent realized the futility of guarding the Park for a few months each year and then leaving it unprotected so two permanent rangers—and later three—were appointed. Entire administration of General Grant National Park was placed in the hands of one ranger and the military outpost there was discontinued.

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

In 1914 a civilian organization consisting of a superintendent, three permanent rangers and eight summer rangers was formed to replace the military force which had hitherto been used. The formation of the National Park Service by an act of Congress in 1915 provided the frame-work for the efficient organization which has since grown up. Since the time of the troopers the Park has made a steady advance under the able leadership of Superintendent Walter Fry who, in recognition of his long public service, was appointed in 1920 as Unit

tates Commissioner for Sequoia and General Grant National Parks. The place left by Judge Fry is now filled by a capable leader of men, Colonel John R. White, whose service in many parts of the world fits him exceptionally well for the great task of carrying the Park through its period of maximum development.

THE GIANT SEQUOIA

The story of the life and characteristics of the big tree are charmingly told by John Muir in his *Mountains of California* and by Dr. Willis Linn Jepson in his chapter "The Giant Sequoia" in the *Handbook of Yosemite National Park*. The former description is reprinted in the circular of general information regarding Sequoia National Park (*Rules and Regulations, Sequoia and General Grant National Parks*) which may be obtained free at the office of the National Park Service in Giant Forest. Many points of surpassing interest, however, are often overlooked when one stands speechless beneath one of these forest giants; a few of the most important facts are outlined in the following paragraphs.

The bigtree is without doubt the oldest and largest living thing on our planet but unfortunately both its age and its size have often been exaggerated in enthusiastic descriptions and rhapsodies. The oldest tree of which we have *definite record* was cut in the Converse Basin. An accurate ring count by Dr. Willis Linn Jepson fixed its age at 3,148 years.

The bigtree and its close relative, the coast redwood, are often spoken of as being exceedingly old racially and the last survivors of a very ancient type of plant life. As a matter of fact the morphology of their structure shows them to be *descended from* the Pine Family (pine:

rs, spruces, and hemlocks) and a study of fossils reveals them first during the miocene age of the Tertiary period when the coniferous flora had already long been developed. Six species of sequoia were widely scattered throughout the northern hemisphere but these all became extinct—supposedly during the glacial ages—excepting the two California species.

Of the twenty-six groves of *Sequoia gigantea* (or *S. washingtonia*) which occur at wide intervals on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada the Giant Forest is the largest and contains many of the most magnificent specimens. The estimate of a million trees, five thousand of which are over ten feet in diameter, appears to be much too high, however, even for this magnificent grove covering an area some four miles square.

It must be remembered that where diameters and circumferences are given they have been taken at the ground unless otherwise stated. On account of the buttressed bases of most trees, the diameters at ten or twelve feet are generally but three-quarters of that at the ground. Above the root swellings, however, the trunks show remarkably little taper, rising to their crowns like fluted columns. The maximum recorded height of a Giant Forest sequoia is 319 feet but most trees have ragged or broken tops culminating 125 to 225 feet above the ground.

The size of a tree and rate of growth depend largely upon the amount of light which it receives and upon the moisture in the soil. The diameter is therefore of little or no value in determining age. The general appearance, though a better indicator of longevity, is greatly influenced by varying conditions of storm, wind, disease, or under-nutrition.

Standing head and shoulders above its other forest neighbors, the giant sequoia becomes a mark for Jove's thunderbolts and almost every mature specimen has at one time or another been struck. Never since they have been known, however, has one of these trees been *killed* by lightning, although their associates, the pines and firs, often succumb after one such stroke.

"Stag tops" or "spike tops" will be observed in many of the mature sequoias. This may be caused by lightning, and Jepson suggests that it may be due to the gradual exhaustion of food supply or to several seasons of deficient rainfall.

Lastly, it should be pointed out that the giant sequoia is *not* dying out nor doomed to extinction. Within its limited range it reproduces well naturally and maintains its place among other trees of the forest family without man's help. With its immunity from disease and insect enemies and its resistance to fire, it seems to be one of the chosen species in its own habitat and if protected from the saw and axe we may reasonably expect it to thrive *ad infinitum*.

WILD ANIMALS

Sequoia National Park is one of the greatest game sanctuaries in California. Of its exceedingly rich animal fauna a few species are seen by most tourists and many others can be found by the silent and cautious observer.

Of course one cannot but enjoy the comradeship of the ever hungry vivacious chipmunks who are unbidden but welcome guests in most camps. Along forest trails we are most liable to be pelted by the saucy little brown Douglas squirrel or "Chickaree" and sometimes a camper and the flourish of a magnificent bushy tail proclaims the Silver or Gray Tree Squirrel. The Sierra Nevada Flying Squirrel is present in numbers but is seldom seen because of its strictly nocturnal habits.

Of the larger mammals the bear receives the most attention. He is a friendly chap—the American Brown Bear—ever hungry from the time he awakes gaunt and shaggy from his long winter's sleep until with sleek fur and rolling fat he meets the first snow storms of fall. Despite his taste for sweets which occasionally urges him to visit our camps when we are absent, Bruin is a timid fellow and will run at the least provocation. Even a mother with cubs is not dangerous unless frightened. The bear has a remarkably keen sense of smell and a fair

sense of hearing but his eyesight is notorious poor. This latter fact has led to many amusing incidents, Bruin in all cases being as frightened as the person "almost attacked" and both parties seeking to break speed records in opposite directions. In Giant Forest bears may be seen almost any evening at dusk at the refuse dump a few hundred yards from the corral on the Sherman Tree Road, a distance of about one mile from the village. Grizzlies were found in the Sierra in the early days but the species has been extinct in California for more than two decades.

Travelers of the trails, if they observe sharply will often see an inquisitive brown eyed doe or a heavily antlered buck standing motionless waiting to see what manner of intruder they may be. Taking alarm, these deer will gracefully bound away or, seeming assured that they are safe, may resume grazing or nipping tender buds from the chaparral.

The yap of a fox or the barking howl of a coyote is occasionally heard at night and often their tracks may be seen in the dust, but otherwise we should scarcely guess the existence of these animals.

The California Mountain Lion or Cougar despite its predatory damage to deer and small game, is a cowardly brute. So wary are these big cats that most mountaineers have never seen one without its first being tracked by dogs.

The Wildcat or "lynx cat" preys upon birds and small animals and, like its larger relative the cougar, is seldom or never seen.

The Bighorn Sheep is exceedingly rare in the Park but has been reported during recent summers on the flanks of the Silliman Range.

In high mountain meadows one often hears the shrill whistle of the Sierra Marmot or Woodchuck. This largest member of the Rodent family may generally be seen sunning himself beside his burrow or sitting erect as guard on some conspicuous lookout point.

The broken rock slides and talus slopes of the timberline region are inhabited by a most interesting little rabbit-like animal, the Cony or Kaika. During the summer these industrious little workers cut and cure "hay" enough to last through the long winter and when interrupted they give a peculiar nasal-bleating cry of alarm.

The many other animals of the Park are small and inconspicuous and many are strictly nocturnal in their habits.

BIRDS

The abundant bird life of Sequoia National Park offers a source of keen enjoyment to many visitors to Giant Forest. Of the two hundred or more species which make their homes in the Park during at least a portion of the year but a few can here be briefly mentioned.

As one climbs the road to Giant Forest is almost sure to be scolded before entering the Park by the audacious and unmistakable California Blue Jay. A flash of color and a whir of wings from a clump of flowers in these lower regions often reveals the presence of the Anna's Hummingbird or the Black-chinned Hummingbird. Other inhabitants of the oak parks and chaparral slopes are the Nuttall Woodpecker, Northern Brown Towhee, Hutton Vireo, Western Gnat-catcher, Bell Sparrow, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Pallid Wren-tit, Plain Titmouse, California Thrasher, and others.

Upon entering the pine belt we are almost sure to find our old friend the Western Robin foraging for insects in the clearings or singing from some roadside tree. A smaller associate of the robin is the black-cowled Sierra Junco. The white bill, dark back and wings, white belly, and the characteristic of spreading the tail in flight will readily identify this little ground feeder. The Crested or Blue-fronted Jay will for himself upon one's notice at about the time that the first robin is seen. A brilliant black, gray

and red inhabitant of the oaks is the large, and sometimes boisterous, Red-shafted Flicker. The white-headed Woodpecker, the giant Pileated Woodpecker or "cock-of-the-woods", and the California Woodpecker are some of the dozen more kinds of woodpeckers found in the Park. Throughout the coniferous forests are many species of brilliantly colored wood warblers which seek insects here in the summer and migrate southward during the winter months. Each has a short set of notes which is repeated persistently but which does not compare in tone, length, or variety with those of the other forest songsters. The song of the large and strikingly colored black, brown, and white Black-headed Grosbeak is so much like that of the robin that the two are sometimes confused if not seen. The largest of the many birds of prey found on the mountains is the Golden Eagle whose great wing spread of six or seven feet make him quite conspicuous as he circles about overhead ready to swoop down upon smaller birds or animals. There are about a dozen kinds of owls and some two-thirds that number of vultures to be found within the Park. The calls of the latter are quite distinct and when once learned serve to distinguish them immediately. The fastest and most daring of all fliers are the Swifts which make their homes in inaccessible cliffs and high rock walls. Their outline is that of a crossbow while that of their as-

sociate, the Violet-green Swallow, displays straight margin at the back of the wing.

Along Sierra rivers and creeks one sometimes sees a chunky slaty gray bird fly into the foam of a fall or cascade. This is the Water Ouzel or Dipper whose life story was so charmingly told by John Muir in his book "The Mountains of California."

In the high mountains the Clark Nutcracker often proves to be a "camp robber." Although a member of the Crow Family he wears a plumage of light gray with darker flight feathers. The wonderful song of the Sierra Hermit Thrush is often heard in the morning and evening in the upper regions and early in the summer one may be fortunate enough to hear the exquisite and varied repertoire of the Townsend Solitaire.

The plainly pronounced *chick-a-dee-dee* of the Mountain Chickadee proclaims his presence wherever he lives throughout the middle and upper elevations of the Sierra. One of the most pleasing and persistent songsters of the same altitudes is the Western Warbling Vireo. Even while on the nest these birds will sing hour after hour. Familiar to most mountaineers is the Mountain Bluebird which makes its home in a cavity of some dead tree near timberline.

Many excellent field books are available to help those interested in the birds and the Giant Forest Region is one of the ideal localities for the pursuit of such a study.

FISHING

When white men first entered the mountains one species of trout, the Rainbow, was found, that in but few of the streams. Most rivers of the Kaweah region descend so abruptly with so many falls that Nature had thus precluded the natural stocking of the entire watershed. In the last few decades several species have become established by artificial propagation and the waters of the region now offer some six or seven kinds of trout. Most abundant are the Rainbow and Eastern Brook trout; Kern River Rainbow, Cut-throat, and Golden Shiner are rather limited in their distribution; and the prize of all—the Golden Trout—is found in but one stream (Dorsten Creek) in the Giant Forest region. This, however, the most beautiful of all trout and one of the gamest of fighting fishes, was originally found in but one small stream in the Kern region. The writer cannot but appeal to the sportsman for fair play in being satisfied with less than a full limit catch, for this fine species should be assured of a future existence. As is ever the case in a region which is penetrated by automobile roads the streams in the immediate vicinity of Giant Forest are extensively fished. Early in the season fishing is good in the Marble Fork, Wolverton Creek, and in the lower reaches of Sherman Creek, and a few weeks fishing on the part of several

hundred anglers pitifully depletes the number of trout. At places more difficult of access fishing is good throughout the season. Dorr Creek, a day's hike northwest of the Forest, offers excellent sport and is stocked with Golden Trout. Cactus Creek, though now made readily accessible by the Crystal Cave Trail, flows through an exceedingly rough canyon and is therefore not overfished. North of Marble Fork Camp are Silliman Creek and Clover Creek, each of which offers good fishing except in the vicinity of the main trail to Twin Lakes and Kings River Canyon.

The Giant Forest region, being several miles west of the crest, is not rich in lakes. The most accessible fishing lakes are Twin Lakes, Silliman Lakes, and Jennie Lake to the north and Hamilton Lake under the Great Western Divide to the east. The latter is reached by an exceedingly rough trip partly afoot and because of its inaccessibility is one of the best fishing lakes in the mountains. It must be remembered that in all Sierran lakes fishing conditions are extremely variable between different days and between different hours of the same day; one may sometimes fish for an entire day without getting a "strike" and on the morrow have his limit catch in less than an hour.

TREES

The magnificent forests of the Sierra Nevada are composed of comparatively few kinds of trees, most of them cone-bearing evergreens. The abrupt rise from almost sea level to more than twelve thousand feet causes as great a variety of climates in the Park as one would find in traveling from Mexico to Alaska. Each of these climates has its own flora and fauna, so types of plant life change rapidly as we climb towards Giant Forest.

Approaching the foothills, our road passes through park-like stands of valley oak which are replaced at slightly higher elevations by the blue oak and the California black oak which grows well up into the Park. Along the streams at the lower elevations are alders, several species of willow, cottonwood, western sycamore, broad-leaf maple, and California laurel.

At about 5,000 feet altitude we pass abruptly to the pine belt. Here the dominating trees are the yellow-barked, three-needle western yellow pine, the incense cedar with fibrous brown bark and spray-like branchlets, and the tall and spire-like white fir. Sugar pines become numerous a few hundred feet higher. The reddish brown bark, five-needle bundles, and large cones distinguish this species from its associates. Occasionally a white flowering dogwood is found beneath the conifers. The great

fluted columns of the Giant Sequoia could scarcely be confused with those of any of the neighbors. The younger specimens somewhat resemble cedars in form but have more sharply pointed awl-like leaves.

Climbing above Giant Forest we soon find the western yellow pine replaced by its close relative the Jeffrey pine, and the sugar pine and sequoia give way to pure fir forests. The red fir, which may readily be distinguished by its deeply fissured carmine-red bark, here associated with the western white pine, a five-needle pine with cones much like those of its relative the sugar pine but smaller. Great areas of the uplands are populated by the little two-needle lodgepole pine. Its purplish gray scaly bark becomes a familiar sight to all mountaineers. The high mountain trails often pass through delightful groves of quaking aspen, one of the most charming of all Sierra trees.

The timberline forests in the region about Sequoia National Park are made up of gnarled and dwarfed foxtail pines. The name well expresses the appearance of the branchlets which are densely clothed with short five-needle leaf clusters.

Of the many popular books on California trees the best and most useful is Willis Linn Jepson's "*Trees of California.*"

FLOWERS

One of the many fine wildflower gardens of Giant is that at the base of the mountain. It is one of its most attractive features. Over twelve hundred flowering species are known from the Park and many of these occur in great abundance in upland meadows and open glades. It is practically impossible to select from this great number of flowers the ones which are most likely to be found by tourists, for these vary with the altitude, the growing conditions and the season of the year.

The one plant which stands out from all the others and which excites the most popular curiosity is the snow plant. Its asparagus-like blood red flowers appear in spring shortly after the melting of the winter snow. The Snow Plant has never been known to grow up *through* the snow, although a light snowfall in spring may have made it so appear to the person who named it. Since the plant has no green chlorophyll with which to manufacture its own food it must use the already prepared nourishment which it obtains from the dead and decaying vegetable matter beneath the ground. This rare and unique plant is fully protected by the National Park Service and a few heavy fines have taught the rascals that the species is afforded some aid in its fight against extinction.

The semi-tropical foothill slopes are dotted early in spring with the great white flower masses

of the Yucca or Spanish Bayonet and the brush slopes of "chaparral" are then one mass of fragrant white and blue bloom of the many species of Ceanothus. Especially prominent at all altitudes are the numerous kinds of Lupine and the other flowers to be found are innumerable.

Judge Walter Fry who has made a lifetime study of the flowers and trees of the region is probably the greatest living authority on the flora of the Park.

Roads and Trails
of the
Giant Forest
Region

THE ROUTE TO GIANT FOREST

Giant Forest is the destination for almost every visitor to Sequoia National Park and indeed, a more charming climax to such a pilgrimage is not to be found in all the length and breadth of the great Sierra Nevada. There is at present but one road to this administrative and recreational center of the Park—that from Lemon Cove and Three Rivers. One should by no means expect an easy drive for it must be remembered that the roads built for the early day stage coaches are far from being modern highways. With reasonable care, however, difficulty should be encountered even on the steeper grades; thousands of machines have safely entered each season, many of them driven by women.

From **Visalia**, in the San Joaquin Valley, a concrete highway bears eastward toward Sequoia National Park passing close to the town of **Exeter** which is on the main thoroughfare from the south. For 18 miles it leads through citrus groves, orchards, and grainfields to **Lemon Cove** at the edge of the foothills. This little community has grown up amid orange, lemon and fig orchards and vineyards at the former terminus of the Visalia Electric Railroad—the point of departure for the Giant Forest stagecoach. About 1½ mi. beyond Lemon Cove a road to the left crosses the Kaweah River and leads to General Grant National Park (43 mi.) via Woodlake and Badger. Our route now follows up the Kaweah River and, shortly after crossing its south fork, enters the picturesque little village of **Three Rivers**. The two stores and hotel offer

ROAD MAP SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

Legend

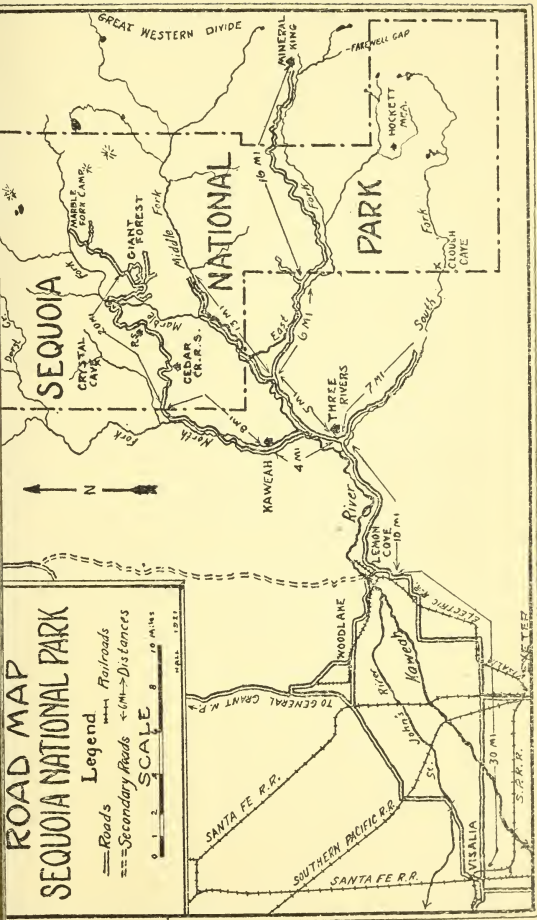
== Roads

--- Railroads

== Secondary Roads <---(mi)--> Distances

SCALE

0 1 2 4 8 10 MILES



the last opportunity to purchase supplies and the last accommodations until the Park is entered except for a gasoline station 2 miles farther.

The paved highway terminates about 1 mi. above Three Rivers. We here cross the river but another road continues up the canyon of the Middle Fork to Hospital Rock, a famous old Indian camp in the Kaweah Canyon several thousand feet below the plateau of Giant Forest. A branch road to the right at Hammond, 4 mi. distant, leads across Sequoia National Park via the East Fork to Mineral King, formerly a mining camp and now a summer settlement picturesquely set in a deep amphitheater just under the Great Western Divide.

After turning to the left and crossing the Kaweah River we parallel its north fork, soon passing through **Kaweah**, the winter headquarters of the Superintendent of Sequoia National Park. Gasoline and oil are obtainable at a service station. From here on radiators should be filled at every opportunity. Crossing to the east bank of the North Fork we now ascend "Five-mile Grade" which has been considerably improved during the past season. Eight miles above Kaweah the **park line** is crossed and our road veers to the eastward. Cactus Creek drains the canyon to our left. The roads within the Park are generally in much better condition than those of the lower regions.

Water is available at **Watson Spring**, $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. inside the Park (emergency camp only), and $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. farther at **Rocky Gulch** (emergency camp only). At this latter point a spring will be found below the road. There now follows a 2-mile climb to **Maple Creek**, a possible

up site for one small party. During the latter part of the season this watercourse sometimes dries. Another $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. takes us to **Cedar Creek Ranger Station** where all persons are required to register and automobile permits (\$5.00) are issued. Gasoline, oil, and water are here obtainable and light lunches are served. Assistance is provided by the National Park Service and a few transient camps.

A steep 3-mile grade now leads to the summit of the ridge between Cactus Creek Canyon at the left and the Middle Fork of the Kaweah to the southward. At the crest we are afforded to our first view of the Kaweah Canyon flanked on the north by Moro Rock and on the south by the Castle Rocks, with the rugged peaks of the Great Western Divide far in the distance. From this point the old Colony Mill trail descends steeply via Elk Creek into the canyon of the Middle Fork.

The following mile is the last sustained steep climb on the road. Close to the summit is a splendid outlook point near the **Colony Mill Ranger Station** (telephone connections with Giant Forest). Water is piped to several good camp sites in the vicinity and many parties camp here especially to see the sunrise over the Great Western Divide. This is even more impressive when viewed from **Admiration Point** which is reached by a 1-hour side trip. The trail leaves the road $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. east of the ranger station and descends $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. along a knife-edge trail. At Admiration Point, its terminus, is a 600-foot precipice. At one side one looks down upon Marble Falls and at the other the Middle Fork Canyon leads straight southward to the Kaweah.

At Colony Mill an old trail leaves the upper side of the road, joining the Black Oak Trail in $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. (see page 92). Beyond Colony Mill Ranger Station our road traverses dense forest of pine, fir, and cedar for the rest of the distance of Giant Forest. The two branches of the Black Oak Trail (Trail Trip 11, page 92) lead off from the left of our road at points about $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. apart, and, joining shortly, continue to Muir Grove ($13\frac{1}{2}$ mi). About $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. beyond the farther of these two trails is the **Marble Fork** of the **Kaweah River**. As we approach the bridge, the trail to Halstead Meadow and Colony Meadows (Trail Trip 12, page 97) takes off to the left and bears northward. There are good camp sites on both sides of the stream and fishing is good early in the season. Giant Forest is $4\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant by road or 3 mi. by the trail which turns to the left just beyond the bridge.

Another $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. now takes us to the "Smith Grade," an uncompleted road which enters our road from the right and leads for about 1 mi. toward the Kaweah Canyon, being continued in the Hospital Rock Trail (Trail Trip 18, page 126). Near the junction with the main road is a small stream and a good camp site, the erstwhile headquarters of a troop of U. S. Cavalry which guarded the park prior to 1914.

A half mile more takes us to **Buena Vista Point** where the Hospital Rock Trail (Trail Trip 18, page 126) branches to the right. A 1 mile climb takes us to the summit of the road where the Moro Rock Road (see page 4) branches to the right and from here a short descent leads through a magnificent grove of Sequoias to **Giant Forest Village**. There is here the post office of Giant Forest, a ge-

al store, meat market, studios, etc. A good hotel-lodge is maintained by the Kings River Parks Company. Camp sites are assigned free by the National Park Service and equipment for permanent or trail camps may be rented from the Housekeeping Department of the lodge.

WHAT TO SEE AT GIANT FOREST

Too much stress cannot be laid upon the **planning** of one's vacation whether at Giant Forest or elsewhere. It is greatly to be regretted that the lack of available information in the past has led campers to overlook many hidden sequoias and surprising points of interest almost within the glow of their campfires. In Giant Forest the automobile has not yet invaded Nature's favorite wild flower gardens—woodland glades with here and there a patriarch sequoia—and these are all the most charming when one seeks them by following the good forest trails of the region.

Leave your machine in camp! In the following section of this volume all of the trails are described in detail and the brief outline here presented will help to assign to each trip its proper importance.

General Sherman, the world's largest tree, of course one of the main features of the Forest. The round trip from the village is a leisurely two-hour walk by road or trail or a few minutes ride via Sherman Road.

Two favorite after-dinner walks are those to Beetle Rock and Sunset Rock which are best visited during the sunset hours.

There are several half day or full day circuits within Giant Forest. The most spectacular of these is the half day excursion to Moro Rock, a great monolith of granite at the rim of the Kaweah Canyon; the base is reached by both road and trail and a stairway leads to the summit which is the best lookout point in the region. Other view points on the canyon rim are visited during the same trip.

Less spectacular, but to the lovers of trees and wildflowers just as attractive, are the trails to the many meadows within the Forest. These offer so many points of interest that two days may well be allowed in one's itinerary for the excursions to Circle Meadow, Crescent Meadow, and Log Meadow. If necessary they may be crowded into a longer one day tour, or, if one is so time-poor as to have but a day at his disposal, the Moro Rock section can also be included in the day's hard hike. One should beware, however, of trying to walk too far in one day, for fatigue greatly depreciates the enjoyment of such a trip.

One should by all means plan to travel some of the longer trails. One of the most popular of these is the trip to Alta Meadow and the summit of Alta Peak. It can be taken in one strenuous day by horseback with a final scramble up the mountain afoot, but hikers should plan to camp at Alta Meadow, spending a day and a half or two days on the trip.

Rivalling the Alta Trail in popularity is that to Twin Lakes with the ascent of Mount Silliman as a side trip. Two days should be allowed, for camping conditions are ideal at the lakes and fishing is good in Twin Lakes and Silliman lakes.

Lying northwest of Giant Forest is a picturesque section of the Park, a wonderfully fine and easily accessible camping country, which is comparatively unknown and is seldom visited by tourists. A two or three day round trip through this country over the Black Oak Trail takes one to Muir Grove, Dorst Creek (famous for its Golden Trout), Halstead Meadow, and

Suwanee River Grove. A delightful week might be spent at the many fine campsites.

Of the longer trips, that to Kings River Canyon is best known. No camping outfit is necessary, for the Kings River Parks Company maintains a camp at Horse Corral Meadows and a lodge in Kings Canyon. General Grant Park, where there is another comfortable lodge, is 17 miles by trail west of Horse Corral Meadows and may be visited by adding two days to one's Kings River trip or by a four day round trip from Giant Forest.

The magnificent range of the Great Western Divide is as yet almost inaccessible but there is one especially fine five to seven day trip which is best taken from Giant Forest as a base camp. This excursion up Deadman Canyon and over Turtle (Elizabeth) Pass was the subject for Stewart Edward White's book "The Pass."

Giant Forest is one of the most convenient "jumping off places" for the start of the three weeks trip northward along the crest of the Sierra Nevada to Yosemite via the John Muir Trail.

Eastward from Giant Forest are the Great Western Divide, Big Arroyo, the Kaweah Peaks, Kern Canyon, and the Mount Whitney region; and to the northeastward are the magnificent mountains at the headwaters of the Kings River to tempt the mountaineer to longer camping excursions which cannot be described in this small volume.

BEETLE AND SUNSET ROCKS

At the western edge of the Giant Forest plateau are two rounded granite outcrops, the lookout points Beetle Rock and Sunset Rock. Each offers a wide view westward beyond the timbered ridges which flank the Marble Fork canyon and to the hot foothills and plains of San Joaquin Valley. On clear days a silhouette of the Coast Ranges can be seen from each and generally a small portion of this mountain chain stands out in relief just at the moment the sun sinks below the horizon. Each of these lookouts is reached by both road and trail. Being so close to the village, they are favorite points from which to view the sunset following a short after dinner walk. Neither of these lookouts offers a view of the High Sierra.

BEETLE ROCK

($\frac{1}{4}$ mile: 10 or 15 minutes walk)

From Giant Forest we follow the main road westward past the government buildings. Bearing to the left and up a grade we soon find a subsidiary road to the right and a similar turnoff to the crest. Either of these leads to Beetle Rock which is but a short distance from the main road. This section is especially noted for its rugged pines, many of which have been admirably pictured by the Giant Forest photographers. At the summit are several pits in the solid granite which are supposed to have been excavated by the aborigines for use in tanning hides. The rock was named in 1905 when a new species of beetle was there discovered by Ralph Hopping, a government entomologist.

SUNSET ROCK

(1 mile: ½ hour walk)

From the Giant Forest Post Office we follow the main road past the lodge, turning to the right at Round Meadow on the General Sherman and Marble Fork Road. We skirt the western margin of the meadow and 200 yards beyond find a turnoff to the left which leads to Sunset Rock. In traversing this road we encounter no steep grades. The road mounts through the pine and fir forest, and terminates about 100 yards from the rock which is reached by a short walk.

For a good portion of the distance the road is paralleled by a trail. Passing to the east and north of the rock it descends steeply for 2 mi. to the Marble Fork Bridge on the main Giant Forest Road (Trail Trip 10, page 91).

MORO ROCK AND CRESCENT MEADOW ROAD

Points along road	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total mileage
Giant Forest to junction with Moro Road	$\frac{1}{4}$	10 min.	$\frac{1}{4}$
Junction with Loop Road	200 yd.	5	$\frac{1}{4} +$
Junction with Crescent Road	$1\frac{1}{4}$	40	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Moro Rock	$\frac{3}{4}$	15	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Crescent Road Junction to Parker Group	$\frac{1}{4}$	5	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Crescent Meadow	1	30	$4\frac{1}{4}$
Giant Forest	$2\frac{1}{2}$	1 hr.	$6\frac{3}{4}$

The two-mile trip from Giant Forest to Moro Rock has long been a favorite with both hikers and motorists and the recently constructed punch road to the foot of Crescent Meadow now makes this beautiful section of the Forest accessible by automobile. It is suggested that hikers take the trail to the Rock (Trail Trip 5, page 77) returning by road, as in that direction the grades are easiest. The road is good, with but few steep pitches.

From Giant Forest we may follow the Loop Road (see page 59) to its junction with the Moro Road, thence turning to the left, but the more direct and most used route is via the main road. From the village we bear westward with Round Meadow and the General Sherman-Marble Fork Road to our right. Shortly after passing

the government buildings our road ascends an incline to the left. Near the crest, the Beetle Rock Road (see page 47) branches to the right and shortly beyond, the Moro Road veers to the left. The main road here begins its long descent westward to Lemon Cove and Visalia. As we turn southward and follow around the wooded hillside on easy grades, vistas of the foothill country now and then open up through the trees to the right.

The first road entering ours from the left is the Loop Road (see page 59) which offers an alternative route on our return trip.

About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile farther at the left of the road are **The Three Graces**. The turnoff to the left a few hundred feet beyond leads to a fallen sequoia 22 feet in diameter which was blown down during the winter of 1916-17. With car automobiles may be driven out upon the log from the rear and photographed from the road. A half mile beyond this fallen giant the newly constructed road to the Parker Group and Crescent Meadow branches to the left. These points will be visited on our return from Moro. At the right of the road near this junction is an interesting group of three sequoias, the **Odd Fellows**, the bases of which have grown together to form a hollow much like the Bears Bath Tub (see page 76) but larger and without water. About 150 yards farther the trail to Moro Rock via Roosevelt and Pinchot tree takes off at the left. This trail offers a scenic short cut to hikers. The distance to Moro Rock by road is a short $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. A third of mile from our destination the short subsidiary trail to Moro Vista, Hanging Rock, and Valley View (see page 55) turns off at the right of the

ad. It takes but a few minutes to walk to all three points and it is a good plan to do so before visiting Moro. Arriving at the base of **Moro Rock**, we find a large parking space for machines. The ascent is made via the stairway which is directly before us. The details of the climb and the views from the summit will be found in the following section.

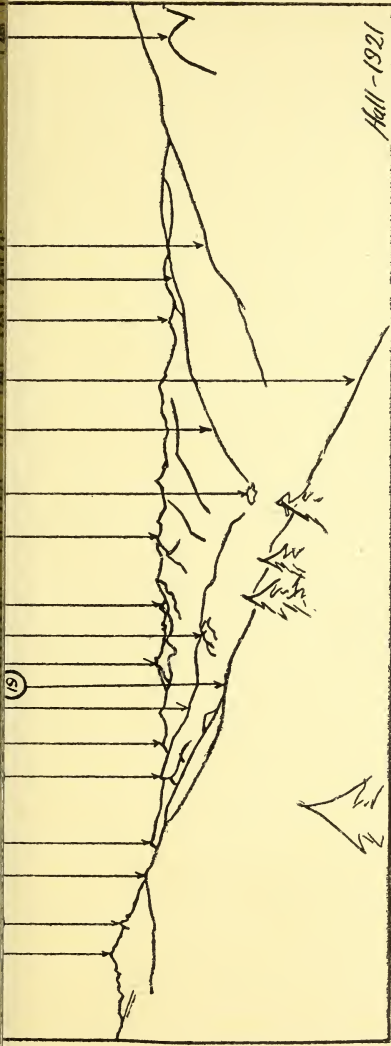
Retracing our route for $\frac{3}{4}$ mi., we turn to the westward (right) toward Crescent Meadow which is $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile distant. If for any reason the trip must be shortened, one should at least visit **The Parker Group** which is but a few hundred yards from the junction. This beautiful cluster of large and symmetrical sequoias was named after Captain James Parker, Acting Superintendent of the Park in 1893-94. A short distance farther along the road is the site of the soldiers' camp which was formerly occupied by a troop of U. S. Cavalry when the Park was administered under the military regime. At this point a trail to the left (Reverse of trail Trip 5) leads to Giant Forest via The Broken Row. We now cross a small creek and just beyond, find a short branch road to the right. This soon dwindles to a trail which parallels the main road eastward. Continuing toward Crescent Meadow through a magnificent sugar pine forest, we pause after $\frac{1}{2}$ mile at **Huckleberry Creek**. Here a trail to Giant Forest to Huckleberry Meadow (Trail Trip 1, page 60) leaves the road at the left.

At the time of writing it was the plan of the Park Service to extend the road about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile farther to a termination at the banks of the creek which drains **Crescent Meadow**. From the lower end of this most charming meadow

the Crescent View Trail leads around the western border and another path follows around the opposite side. Just beyond the creek and bearing to the right is the short trail to Kaweah Vista, an outlook point on the rim of the Kaweah Canyon. The trail turning to the left leads up the meadow, shortly branching to the right to Log Meadow (Trail Trip 2, page 65). Hikers will find the trails back to the village shorter and more scenic than the road. In retracing their former route motorists may vary the trip in the last mile by turning to the right on the Loop Road.

MORO ROCK AND THE ADJACENT VIEW POINTS

Moro Rock is a prominent granite dome jutting out from the north rim of the Kaweah Canyon at the edge of the Giant Forest plateau. The view from the summit is the best obtainable from any point in the immediate vicinity of the Forest. The ascent is made by way of a wooden stairway built up the north shoulder of the rock. The climb up the 162 steps is thrilling but at no point dangerous. One-third of the way to the summit is a good vantage point where the view of the High Sierra at the left and the main Kaweah Canyon on either side of Moro furnishes a striking panorama. A flagstaff marks the summit and near it is the U. S. Geological Survey bench mark which shows the altitude to be 6,719 feet. In locating prominent landmarks the Aeroplane View from this piece and panorama from Moro Rock will be of much assistance. As we face the high mountains the view takes in, starting from the northeast, Mt. Silliman (11,188), Alta Pea-



- 1 Alta Peak (Alt. 11,211)
- 2 Tharps Rock (10,654)
- 3 Panther Peak (9,044)
- 4 Bearpaw Peak (11,093)
- 5 Triple Divide Peak (12,651)
- 6 Lion Rock (12,400)
- 7 Hamilton Lake (8,300)

PANORAMA FROM MORO ROCK

- 8 Black Kaweah (13,752)
- 9 Sugarbowl Dome (7,657)
- 10 Big Kaweah (13,816)
- 11 Lippincott Mt. (12,263)
- 12 Redwood Meadow (6,000)
- 13 Cliff Creek

- 14 Middle Fork Kaweah River
- 15 Needham Mt. (12,470)
- 16 Deer Creek
- 17 Paradise Creek
- 18 Castle Rocks (9,150)
- 19 Buck Canyon

(Drawn after a photo by Lindley Eddy)

(11,211), Panther Peak (9,044), and the Great Western Divide. Southeast across the canyon are the Castle Rocks. Westward the Kaweah Canyon descends toward the San Joaquin, and into it from the north comes the deep gorge of the Marble Fork beyond Switchback Peak, a prominent point below us. On the south canyon-wall there appears to be a road, but this is the flume running to Power House 3 of the Southern California Edison Co. It is expected that the new Giant Forest Road will ascend this main fork of the Kaweah Canyon following along the north slope on easy grade, doubling back near Panther Creek, and climbing to the Giant Forest plateau in the vicinity of Crescent Meadow.

At the canyon rim near Moro are several lookout points, one to the east and three to the west, which may be visited by short side trails.

The trail to **Moro Cliff** leads eastward from terminus of the road and an easy 5-minute walk takes one to the point from which the great sweep of the eastern face of Moro may be seen.

The three points to the west are about 10 minutes walk from the base of the rock and but a short distance off the Giant Forest Road. The trail turns to the left about $\frac{1}{3}$ mi. from the base of the Rock. In 100 yds. we climb a rocky mound about 50 ft. in height to **Moro Vista** from which is obtainable what is said to be the best view of Moro Rock. At its left is a distant view of a section of the Great Western Divide and across the canyon are Castle Rocks. Westward is the lower Kaweah Canyon with the canyon of the Marble Fork joining it from the

orth. About 100 yds. northwestward along the cliff Hanging Rock can be seen.

Three-quarters of the distance back to the road, the trail to Hanging Rock branches to the left. The easy 200-yd. ascent takes us to a sloping granite table at the rim of the canyon. **Hanging Rock** is a huge granite erratic probably here left stranded by an ancient glacier. It gives one the impression of being unstable and of being ready to slide off at the least provocation. The view is almost the same as that from Moro Vista except that a little less of the high country can be seen and to the west is a wider sweep toward the foothills.

A short distance back along the trail the path to **Valley View** branches to the left and climbs about 150 yds. Although somewhat higher than the two points previously visited, the view towards the Great Western Divide is not quite so expansive, but to the northeast toward Mt. Williamson is a wide stretch previously invisible. From the rocky extremity of this point a trail descends steeply and joins the Hospital Rock trail (Trail Trip 18, page 126) at Deer Ridge. This trail is practically snowless during almost the entire winter.

GENERAL SHERMAN ROAD

GIANT FOREST TO GENERAL SHERMAN TREE, WOLVERTON CAMP, AND MARBLE FORK CAMP

Points along road	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Sherman Creek	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	40 min.	$\frac{3}{4}$
General Sherman Tree	$\frac{1}{4}$	10	2
Junction with Wolverton Road	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 hr.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Wolverton Camp	$\frac{1}{2}$	20 min.	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Wolverton Junction to Marble Fork Camp	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	35	6—(5 $\frac{1}{4}$ fr.G.F.)
Giant Forest	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 hr.	11 $\frac{1}{4}$

General Sherman, the largest tree in existence is one of the chief attractions of Giant Forest. The following road trip offers an exceedingly attractive half day ride or full day walk from the village, the main points of interest being General Sherman Tree, Wolverton Camp and Long Meadow, and Marble Fork Camp. The road is good, but mostly uphill with a few steep grades.

From Giant Forest Post Office we follow the main road past the lodge, turning to the right at **Round Meadow**. The road follows around the western border of this little green and 200 yards beyond it is joined from the left by the **Sunset Rock Road** (see page 47). We now wind up through the pine, fir, and sequoia forest, soon passing the **corrals** where two trails lead off to the right. One of these leads southeastward $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the village and the other climbs eastward for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to join the

ta Trail near the crossing of Circle Meadow Creek. A short distance beyond the corral a turnoff to the left leads to the refuse dump where bears may usually be seen at dusk.

Just after crossing **Sherman Creek** and about 2 miles from Giant Forest Village a turn in the road reveals **General Sherman Tree** about 100 yards to the left. It may be reached by a short side road. General Sherman Tree was discovered by James Wolverton, a hunter and trapper, on August 7, 1879, at which time he named it in honor of General Sherman under whom he had served as captain during the Civil War. The socialists of the Kaweah Colony named the tree "Karl Marx" in the eighties, but as soon as the soldiers started their guard of the newly formed Sequoia National Park this name seems to have disappeared. The following are some of the dimensions of the General Sherman Tree.

	feet
Greatest diameter at base.....	36.5
Average diameter at base.....	32.7
Circumference at base.....	102.8
Diameter 6 feet above ground.....	27.4
Cir. 6 feet above ground.....	86.
Diameter 100 feet above ground..	17.7
Height.....	279.9

The $\frac{1}{4}$ mile grade just north of General Sherman Tree is the steepest between Lemon Cove and Wolverton. From the foot of this steep pitch a short-cut trail leads off to the right, joining the road at the top of the hill. About $\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Sherman Tree our road forks, the road to the left leading to Marble Fork

Camp and the one to the right to Wolverton Camp and Long Meadow.

The road to the right continues to climb for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile where it passes a deserted construction camp, and shortly afterward **Wolverton Camp Grounds** are seen to the right near the crossing of a branch creek. Nearby is the partially constructed dam of the Mt. Whitney Power and Electric Company which was abandoned after \$250,000 had been expended on the project.

There are many good camp sites in the vicinity. The peak seen above the trees to the north eastward is the crest of Mount Silliman. Fishing is fair in **Wolverton Creek** below the dam site. From the end of the road a trail follows southward up the western (right) margin of **Long Meadow**. After crossing a ridge and descending a short distance on the south slope it joins the Alta Trail at a point about $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Giant Forest Village and 1 mile from Wolverton Camp. Another trail starting from a point just below the Wolverton Dam site crosses Wolverton Creek and follows its course eastward and southward for about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Panther Gap where it joins the Alta Trail 3 miles from Giant Forest.

From Wolverton Camp we must retrace our route westward $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the junction with the Giant Forest-Marble Fork Road. Turning to the right we soon cross **Wolverton Bridge** and a gradual descent of $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles takes us to **Marble Fork Camp**. Many fine camp sites will be found both up and down the river beneath the giant pines and firs. The section is especially attractive because it is never crowded and as a base camp for walking trips it is hardly to be excelled. The

ails to Twin Lakes, Mt. Silliman, Kings River Canyon, General Grant Park, etc., which cross the river and bear northward are well traveled, but much of the mountainous country to the east of the crossing is almost unexplored. There is a partial trail, and one may follow up the Marble Fork for several miles with comparative ease. The grandeur of the Yosemite-like cliffs and the deep gorge are destined to be famous when "discovered" and made accessible by trail.

THE LOOP ROAD

The Loop Road, about 1 mile in length, lies entirely within Giant Forest and connects the eastern end of the village with the Moro Rock Road. The road is good and passes through some beautifully forested sections where, on account of the steep slopes, many giant sequoias may be seen to their entire height. At places one obtains a view over the tops of the trees in the Giant Forest basin. The grade to the summit from either direction is steep. The trail to the Parker Group on the Crescent Meadow Road (Rail Trip 5, page 77) takes off at the abrupt turn nearest Circle Camp. The Loop joins the Moro Rock Road about 200 yards south of its junction with the main Giant Forest Road. The distance to Giant Forest from this point is about three times as great via the Loop Road as via the main road.

Trail Trip 1

CRESCENT MEADOW TRAIL GIANT FOREST TO CRESCENT MEADOW AND LOG MEADOW *via* ALTA TRAIL AND RETURN *via* HUCKLEBERRY MEADOW

(Reverse of Trail Trip 2)

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total mileage
Giant Forest to Junction of Alta and Crescent M. Trails	$\frac{1}{3}$	10 min.	$\frac{1}{3}$
Junction with Bears' Bath Tub Trail	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	$\frac{3}{4}$
Junction with Circle Mea. Trail	$\frac{1}{6}$	5	1
Junction with Huckleberry Meadow trail	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Head of Crescent Meadow	100 yds.	5	$1\frac{1}{2} +$
Log Meadow	$\frac{1}{2}$ mi.	20	2
Foot of Crescent Meadow	$\frac{3}{4}$	25	$2\frac{3}{4}$
Huckleberry Creek	$\frac{1}{4}$	10	3
Huckleberry Meadow	$\frac{3}{4}$	25	$3\frac{3}{4}$
Giant Forest	1	35	$4\frac{3}{4}$

Among the many fine byways of Giant Forest the **Crescent Meadow Trail** is one of the most attractive and should be included in everyone's itinerary. The round trip can be accomplished in a forenoon walk, but there are ample points

of interest en route to occupy one's entire day. The trail is comparatively level and the trip not strenuous. Water is found frequently along the trail and the meadows offer many fine camping places. If a longer walk is desirable one may follow the road or trail from the foot of Crescent Meadow to Moro Rock ($1\frac{3}{4}$ mi.), returning to Giant Forest via the Moro Road or any trail via Parker Group. The Circle Meadow Trail (Trail Trip 4, page 74), lends itself well to the combination with the following trip if it is taken in the opposite direction as described in Trail Trip 2.

From Giant Forest our route lies along the Alta Trail which branches from a camp road 100 yards northeast of the post office. After a rather abrupt climb of about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. we cross Circle Meadow Creek and turn to the right on the trail to Crescent Meadow via Hollow Log and Washington Tree. Within a few minutes walk from the junction we pass through a splendid group of sequoias known as **The Amphitheatre** and then near the huge 150-foot tunnel of **Hollow Log** which offers one the unusual sensation of walking through the entire length of the tree's burned interior. Years ago before soil was washed into the root end of the passage it was the common practice to ride for some distance into the tree horseback.

From the base of the log a short subsidiary trail leads to the **George Washington Tree**. This forest giant is particularly interesting because of its peculiar crown. Over a hundred feet from the ground the trunk suddenly diminishes to quarter its normal size and continues upward. This indicates that, possibly a thousand years ago, the head of the tree was killed

and has since been regenerated by one of the top most branches. The same phenomenon can be observed in many of the other old sequoias. It is not until it is encircled that the tremendous girth can be appreciated.

Returning to Hollow Log, we continue eastward along our trail which now climbs in $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. to a small rocky plateau. In the following descent a section of **Circle Meadow** comes into view at the left and a short distance farther a trail to the left leads to the Bear's Bath Tub, Big Root, and other points of interest in the Circle Meadow Region (see Trail Trips 3 and 4). Our path now lies over a low ridge. Passing between two huge sequoias and topping the divide, we discover another trail to the left which leads to the eastern sections of Circle Meadow.

Our route now veers to the right and follows down the gentle slope for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the junction with the old Crescent Meadow Trail from Giant Forest. By this path Huckleberry Meadow is $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. westward and Giant Forest 1 mi. farther. We keep to the left and soon get glimpses of **Crescent Meadow** through the timber. A short trail to the right leads to the meadow border and joins the Crescent View Trail which encircles it. Nearby lies **Crescent Log**, a colossal sequoia almost spanning the green. On our return to Giant Forest we will cross the lower end of the meadow about $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant but we will first take the 45-minute side-trip to Log Meadow, stopping en route at Chimney Tree.

Returning to the main trail and continuing eastward, we soon find a short branch trail leading to the left. This takes us to **Chimney**

tree which was formerly one of the chief attractions of the region, being at that time tall for its entire height. Unfortunately it was almost entirely destroyed by a careless camper's fire in 1919. A short distance along the main trail is a gate and at this point the Crescent View Trail skirting the north edge of the meadow joins ours from the west. The main trail swings southward and continues around the meadow margin, but we pass through the gate, starting our side trip to Log Meadow. A short half mile takes us over a low ridge to our destination. The huge sequoia log near the trail was used as a cabin in the early days by James Wolverton who made this his hunting and trapping headquarters. Leading northward from the meadow's edge is a trail (Trail Slip 8, page 90) which climbs for about 2 mi. and joins the Alta Trail at a point $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. from Giant Forest.

Retracing our way a few steps, we now turn southward obtaining occasional glimpses of the meadow and of the several huge fallen sequoias about it. After passing through a gate we swing westward across a gravelly slope to the lower end of **Crescent Meadow** at the border of which our trail is joined by the one following down its eastern margin. From this point is a splendid view up the meadow with Crescent Lake in the distance.

After crossing the creek a subsidiary trail to the left leads to **Kaweah Vista** which is reached by a short climb to the southward. This vantage point offers a vast outlook over the Kaweah Canyon and the high country to the west.

We now return to **Log Meadow Creek**,

crossing immediately to the westward and soon emerging at the terminus of the Crescent Meadow Road which may be followed to the Moro Rock section if one wishes to extend his trip by several miles.

In returning to Giant Forest by trail we have the choice of two routes which join after the first mile. We may follow the Crescent View Trail around the western edge of the meadow rejoining our former main trail near Crescent Log, following it back for a short distance then turning to the left on the old trail which leads in $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to the log cabin at Huckleberry Meadow. The other trail is somewhat the shorter. From the foot of Crescent Meadow we follow westward for about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to **Huckleberry Creek**. The road continues westward to the Parker Group and Moro Rock, but we turn to the right just beyond the crossing of the direct trail to Huckleberry Meadow via the **Dead Giant**. As the meadow is approached there is a remarkable sequoia to the left of the trail. This has grown around a huge boulder which it has apparently split. At **Huckleberry Meadow** our trail is joined near the log cabin by the path from the north end of Crescent Meadow. We veer to the left and a rather steep climb now takes us over a low ridge from which is the gradual descent of $\frac{2}{3}$ mi. to Giant Forest Village where our trail emerges at the Circle Camp Road a short distance east of the post office.

Trail Trip 2

CRESCENT MEADOW TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO CRESCENT MEADOW AND LOG MEADOW *via* HUCKLE- BERRY MEADOW AND RETURN *via* ALTA TRAIL

(Reverse of Trail Trip 1)

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total mileage
Giant Forest to Huckleberry Meadow Cabin	1	35 min.	1
Intersection with Crescent M. Road	$\frac{3}{4}$	25	$1\frac{3}{4}$
Spot of Crescent Meadow	$\frac{1}{4}$	10	2
Log Meadow	$\frac{3}{4}$	35	$2\frac{3}{4}$
End of Crescent Meadow	$\frac{1}{2}$	25	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Intersection with old Huckleberry Meadow Trail	100 yds.	5	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Intersection with Circle Meadow Trail	$\frac{1}{2}$ mi.	15	$3\frac{3}{4} +$
Intersection with Bear's Bath Tub Trail	$\frac{1}{6}$	5	4
Intersection with Alta Trail	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Giant Forest	$\frac{1}{3}$	10	$4\frac{3}{4}$

Crescent Meadow is one of the most charmingly attractive spots in Giant Forest. The following trip should be given at least a half day of one's time at the Forest and a full day can easily be spent in its enjoyment. The walk

is not strenuous and requires but little climbing. Water is found at many points along the trail and the meadows offer most attractive lunching places. If a longer trip is desired this trip may be combined with the Circle Meadow trip (Trail Trip 3, page 69) for a full day's hike.

The Huckleberry and Crescent Meadow Trail starts from the Circle Camp Road about 30 yds. east of Giant Forest Post Office. After crossing a small stream, a rather abrupt climb to the southeast takes us over a flat ridge from which is a sharp descent of $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. to **Huckleberry Meadow**. At the log cabin, the old Crescent Meadow Trail bears to the left, leading to the head of the meadow about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. distant. We turn to the right, however, and soon pass to the left of a remarkable sequoia which has grown around a huge boulder which it has apparently split. Soon after skirting the western border to the meadow we discover that the **Dead Giant** at our left. Bearing southward, our trail parallels **Huckleberry Creek** for about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. to a junction with the **Crescent Meadow Road**. The Parker Group and Moraine Rock lie $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. and $1\frac{3}{4}$ mi. westerly.

Turning to the left, we cross the creek and follow the road eastward for about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. to its terminus near **Log Meadow Creek**. The lower end of Crescent Meadow is just beyond. The **Crescent View Trail** which takes off at the left follows around the western margin and a return trail on the opposite side permits one to fully enjoy the circuit of this wonderful garden spot. As our main trail crosses the lower end of the meadow Crescent Log may be seen in the far distance near its head. This section will later be visited on our return to Giant Forest.

Just beyond the stream crossing is a short subsidiary trail to the right. By it, a five minute climb takes one to **Kaweah Vista** from which is a wide panorama of the Kaweah Canon and of the High Sierra toward the east. Returning to the trail we again cross Log Meadow Creek. The main trail follows around the eastern border of the meadow, but we soon turn to the right on the **Log Meadow Trail**. After a few minutes walk across a gravelly slope we pass through a gate and shortly afterward get our first glimpses through the forest to the right of **Log Meadow** and its many fallen sequoias. Near the north end of the meadow is a huge sequoia log near the trail. In the early days this was the winter home of the hunter and trapper James Wolverton. Bearing northward from the head of the meadow is a trail (Trail Trip 8, page 90) which in 2 mi. joins the Alta Trail at a point about $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. from Giant Forest. Near the Wolverton Log we find our return trail which crosses a low ridge to the westward and in a short half mile passes through a gate and joins the trail skirting the eastern margin of Crescent Meadow. From this point the Crescent View Trail follows around the north and west edge, passing near the great Crescent Log. From the gate our main trail bears northward and soon a short branch to the right leads to the **Gimney Tree**. This was once hollow for its entire height and was one of the chief attractions of the region but unfortunately it was almost destroyed by a careless camper's fire in 1919.

Our main trail now veers to the westward, passing close to the head of Crescent Meadow. A short side trail to the left leads to **Crescent**

Log and connects with the Crescent View Trail. At a trail junction about 100 yds. farther westward along the main trail from the above turn off, the route to the left leads to the log cabin at Huckleberry Meadow about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. distant. We turn to the right and climb to the northward for $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. Near the summit, a trail to the right leads to the Pillars of Hercules, Comfort Camp and other points of interest in the Circle Meadow section (see Trail Trip 3, page 69). Turning to the left, we now pass between two huge sequoias and a short distance beyond we find another trail to the right which leads to Bear's Back, Tub, Big Root, and the south sector of Circle Meadow. We keep to the left and now again then see portions of **Circle Meadow** through the trees to the right.

After crossing a small rocky plateau, we descend $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. to **Hollow Log**, a sequoia some 25 feet in diameter, the interior of which was burned out before its downfall. One can walk through the 150-foot tunnel, and years ago before soil was washed into the root end, it was the common practice to ride for some distance into the trunk without dismounting.

From the log is a subsidiary trail to **Washington Tree**, a few yards distant. The peculiar crown of this forest giant is typical of many other mature sequoias. Over a hundred feet from the ground the diameter suddenly decreases to quarter its lower size and continues upward. This indicates that the top of the tree was killed several centuries ago and that one of the topmost branches then developed a new crown. One should walk around the tree in order to appreciate its great circumference.

Our trail bearing northwest from Hollow Log

roads after about 100 yds. through **The Amphitheatre**, a fine cluster of about ten sequoias. A few moments walk now takes us across **Circle Meadow Creek** and to the **Alta Trail**. Here we turn to the left and descend a rather abrupt grade $\frac{1}{4}$ mi., joining a branch road in **Giant Forest Village** about 300 yds. northeast of the post office.

Trail Trip 3

CIRCLE MEADOW TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO CIRCLE MEADOW via PINE VIEW AND RETURN via McKINLEY TREE

(Reverse of Trail Trip 4)

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total mileage
Giant Forest to Junction with Crescent Meadow Trail	$\frac{1}{3}$	10 min.	$\frac{1}{3}$
Junction of Alta and Circle Meadow Trail	200 yds.	5	$\frac{1}{2}$
Junction near Pine View	200 yds.	5	$\frac{2}{3}$
Root	$\frac{1}{3}$	10	1
Junction near Comfort Camp	$\frac{1}{4}$	10	$1\frac{1}{4}$
Junction with Alta Trail at McKinley Tree	$\frac{3}{4}$	30	2
Giant Forest	1	30	3

The 3-mile round trip to Circle Meadow could be covered in two hours by the average hiker but the many points of interest make it well worthy of at least a half day. The trip

may be combined with that to Crescent Meadow (Trail Trip 1) if a full day excursion is desired but if this be the plan the reverse direction (Trail Trip 4) should be followed.

From the village our route lies along the **Alta Trail** which branches from a camp road about 300 yds. northeast of the post office. About $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. of rather abrupt climbing takes us to the crossing of **Circle Meadow Creek**. Just beyond, the trail to Crescent Meadow via Washington Tree and Hollow Log (Trail Trip 1, page 60) branches to the right.

Continuing along the Alta Trail for a short distance, we branch to the right on the **Circle Meadow Trail** and soon pause at **Pine View**. At the left the **High Pine** may be seen growing 155 feet from the ground in the top of a huge dead sequoia. The tree appears to grow in a deep hollow and its visible height is $6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. A trail (not especially scenic) now leaves out and leads to a log cabin $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. eastward, then turning north to join the Alta Trail at McKinley Tree.

Our path veers to the right a short distance below Pine View, crosses the stream, and skirts a portion of **Circle Meadow** to the **Bear Bath Tub**. This hollow formed by the growing together of the bases of two living sequoias is about three feet deep. It is usually filled with water and there has been considerable speculation as to the cause of this phenomenon. A few feet farther is the **Big Root**, the base of a fallen sequoia upon which the foot trail crosses the meadow. This tree is noted not only for its size but for the perfect preservation of its complete root system and offers an exceptionally fine opportunity for study. It will be noted

that the giant sequoia develops a system of lateral roots in contrast to the deep tap root of the sugar pine and the four or five moderately deep heart roots of the western yellow pine. In spite of the fact that sequoia roots do not penetrate to great depths the trees are remarkably windfirm standing as they do head and shoulders above the other trees of the forest and taking the full force of the wind.

At the Big Root, the trail bearing to the right is the direct route to Crescent Meadow. We now follow up the length of the log and just beyond find a cross trail. By the left hand trail the log cabin of Circle Meadow is a short $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant and the junction with the Alta Trail at McKinley Tree about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. farther.

We turn to the right which is the far more interesting trail. Soon we pass between the **Pillars of Hercules** noting at the right and below the trail a fine stand of young sequoias from 6 to 15 feet in height. Immediately to the left of the trail and just beyond the Pillars is a stand of seedling sequoias. Leaving these, we approach **The Black Causeway** where the trail passes through the heart of a living sequoia. A short distance down the slope and at the left of the trail is an immense old root known as **Comfort Camp**, the remains of which form a shelter and which was used as a cabin in the days of the hunter and trapper. Crossing a stream, we see to our left a portion of the eastern part of Circle Meadow. Here a trail to the right leads to Crescent Meadow, $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. distant, but we turn to the left following the meadow border. Halfway to the head of this meadow is a huge black snag, reminder of that arch enemy of the forest, *fire*. Bearing to the left

around the head of the meadow, we pass close to the root of a huge fallen bigtree and soon afterward enter the first group of **The Congress** which is assembled in two very fine closely set clusters. A short distance up the slope to the northward (no trail) from this first group is a magnificent stand of very large sequoias which have especially rugged crowns. A short walk toward the northwest takes us through the aisles of **The Congress** to the **Senate Group**. Nearby is the **Room Tree** with a chamber in its base and a high window to which one may climb by ladder on either outside or inside. The outside ladder is removable for convenience of photographers.

At the Room Tree a trail joins ours from the south, leading to the log cabin of Circle Meadow a short $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. away and passing through a bigtree group known as the Entente Allies. A few yards now takes us to the junction with the Alta Trail at **McKinley Tree** (dia. 28; ht. 291). Near the crossing is **The Overgrown Stump**, the living base of a small sequoia which bears no foliage but obtains its nourishment through a natural root graft. At right angles to the Alta Trail the **Sherman Trail** (Trail Trip 6, page 80) leads to the northwest $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. to General Sherman Tree.

Turning to the left toward Giant Forest, we soon see the **Lincoln Tree** (dia. 31; ht. 270) at the left of the trail. Before reaching it we find a branch trail to the right which leads to several points of interest and rejoins the main trail about 300 yds. westward. A few steps along this by-trail is the **Stricken Tree**, the top of which has been shattered by lightning and scattered broadcast by its terrific force.

Despite this calamity it still grows thriftily. Nearby and to the right is **Toadstool Rock** and toward the north one may see the gnarled and jagged top of the **General Lee**. We now pass through a fine group of medium sized sequoias known as **The Cloister**. Next visited is the **Window Tree**, an enormous burned snag which is honeycombed with holes. It is possible to crawl directly into the heart of the tree and, looking up, see the burned out interior lighted through the windows. Our trail now bends sharply to the left and in about 100 yds. passes the **Nursery Tree**, a great Sequoia supported on five columns beneath the arches of which is a natural nursery of young firs. Fifty yds. farther we again join the Alta Trail at a point from which the full height of the Lincoln Tree is seen to best advantage. This is one of the finest sequoias in the forest.

Turning southwestward, we soon pass to the left of the **High Pine** which was best seen from Pine View near the beginning of the Circle Meadow Trail. A stone's throw farther and also at our right is the **Keyhole Tree** which takes its name from the two openings in its great burned shell. The base of the tree—although much has been burned away—is 33 feet in diameter. Our trail is now joined from the left by the Circle Meadow Trail which marked the beginning of our trip. Retracing our way toward the village, we soon pass the junction where the Crescent Meadow Trail (Trail Trip 1) branches to the left and the cut of trail to the barns and corral to the right. A descent of $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. takes us to the camp road in Giant Forest where we started our trip.

Trail Trip 4

CIRCLE MEADOW TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO CIRCLE MEADOW

via **McKINLEY TREE AND RETURN**

via **PINE VIEW**

(Reverse of Trail Trip 3)

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Miles
Giant Forest to McKinley Tree	1	35 min.	1
Junction near Comfort Camp	$\frac{3}{4}$	30	$1\frac{3}{4}$
Big Root	$\frac{1}{4}$	10	2
Junction near Pine View	$\frac{1}{3}$	10	$2\frac{1}{3}$
Junction with Alta Trail	200 yds.	5	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Giant Forest	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	3

Although the Circle Meadow Trail may be followed in two hours by a good walker, it has many points of interest warrant at least half a day if one is not rushed. The following trip may be combined with the Crescent Meadow Trail Trip (Trail Trip 1, page 60), by taking the trail leading southward from the Bear Bath Tub.

The first mile of our trail is described in detail in Trail Trip 7, page 82, as far as the trail junction near the **McKinley Tree**. Here we turn to the right, observing near the junction **The Overgrown Stump**, the living base of a small sequoia which bears no foliage but obtains

is nourishment through a natural root graft. A few steps now take us to the **Room Tree** with a chamber in its base and a high window which may be reached from both inside and out by ladders. The latter is removable for the convenience of photographers. A trail joining ours from the south leads to the log cabin of Circle Meadow, a short $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. distant passing a splendid group of sequoias known as the Intente Allies.

A short walk to the southeast by a newly constructed trail takes us through **The Congress**, a fine body of sequoias assembled in two clusters. A short distance up the slope to the northward from the second clump (no trail) is a magnificent stand of very large sequoias with especially rugged crowns. We now cross a short rise and then descend to one of the eastern arms of **Circle Meadow**. As we round its eastern border a huge burned snag is passed. Near the lower end of the meadow a trail continues southward to Crescent Meadow $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. distant, but we turn to the right, crossing a stream and upon nearing **Comfort Camp**, a huge old root which was formerly used as a cabin. A short distance up the slope we approach the **Black Causeway** where the trail passes through the heart of a living sequoia. Just beyond is a fine group of seedling sequoias immediately at the right of the trail, and a thrifty stand of young trees of the same species ranging from 6 to 15 feet in height is seen a few steps farther and to the left. We now pass between the two **Pillars of Hercules** and soon observe a huge fallen sequoia in the meadow to the left. The trail which continues northwestward leads to the log cabin of Circle Meadow, a short $\frac{1}{2}$ mi.

distant. Choosing the more scenic route we cross the meadow on the prostrate trunk which is known as the **Big Root** because of its perfectly preserved base. This offers an exceptionally good opportunity for the study of a typical bigtree root system. It will be noted that the giant sequoia develops a system of lateral roots in contrast to the deep tap root of the sugar pine and the four or five moderately deep heart roots of the western yellow pine. In spite of its comparatively shallow root system the bigtree is remarkably windfirm and withstands well the great force of the wind due to its overtopping the neighboring pines and the firs.

A few feet from the Big Root is the **Bears' Bath Tub**, a water filled hollow formed by the bases of two growing sequoias. There has been considerable speculation as to the cause of this phenomenon.

A trail passing the Bears' Bath Tub and the Big Root bears southeastward to join the Crescent Meadow Trail (Trail Trip 1, page 60) about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. distant. We turn to the right rounding the western portion of **Circle Meadow**. Just after crossing a small stream we reach **Pine View** from which the **High Pine** can best be seen 155 feet above the ground growing in the top of a dead sequoia. The visible height is $6\frac{1}{2}$ ft.

A trail to the eastward (right) leads to the log cabin of Circle Meadow about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. distant from which it turns northward to join the Alta Trail at the McKinley Tree.

At Pine View we turn westward and in 200 yards join the **Alta Trail** where we again keep

to the left. A short walk now takes us to a cross trail which to the left leads to Crescent Meadow (Trail Trip 1, page 60) and to the right to the barns and corral on the General Sherman Road.

A $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. descent takes us to the beginning and end of our trail at a camp road about 300 yds. northeast of the post office.

Trail Trip 5 MORO TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO MORO ROCK *via* PARKER GROUP TRAIL AND RETURN BY ROAD

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to beginning of trail	$\frac{1}{2}$	15 min.	$\frac{1}{2}$
Parker Group: Crescent Road	1	40	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Junction with Moro Road	$\frac{1}{4}$	5	$1\frac{3}{4}$
Moro Cut-off Trail	150 yds.	5	$1\frac{3}{4} +$
Moro Rock	$\frac{1}{2}$	20	$2\frac{1}{2}$

The half-day or full-day trip to Moro Rock and many points of interest in its vicinity is one of the most popular, and certainly the most spectacular, of the Giant Forest walks. Hikers will do well to follow the trail as outlined returning by road because, on account of grades, this routing is to be preferred rather than the reverse direction. The trip may be combined with those to Crescent, Log, and Circle Meadows (Trail Trips 2 and 4, pages 65-74) and the entire

circuit made in one day's hard hike but this is not advised unless one's time is extremely limited.

From Giant Forest we follow the **Circle Camp Road** eastward and then southward toward Camp "K." Ascending a slight grade on the **Loop Road** (see page 59) we find the beginning of our trail at the first sharp turn. Here we branch to the left. For the first 20 yds. the trail climbs rather abruptly but the remainder, for the most part, is a gradual descent. Shortly beyond the summit is **The Broken Arrow**, the shattered remains of a sequoia at the right of the trail. The next 15 minutes walk through the pine, fir, and sequoia forest takes us to the junction with the **Crescent Meadow Road** which is intersected at the former campsite of the troop of U. S. Cavalry which guarded the Park until 1914 when entire administration was assumed by the Superintendent and a body of civilian rangers. Good water will be found just below the road and an inviting place to lunch.

To the eastward (left) the road leads to Crescent Meadow, about 1 mi. distant. The **Crescent Meadow Trail** takes off from the end of a short descending side road. Turning to the westward, a short walk takes us to the **Parker Group**. This cluster of sequoias ranging in diameter from 10 to 15 feet was named after Capt. James Parker, Acting Superintendent of the Park in 1893-94. Our road soon joins the **Moro Rock Road** from Giant Forest. Nearby is the **Odd Fellows**, an interesting group of three sequoias with bases growing together to form a hollow much like the "Bears Bath Tub" but without water.

About 150 yds. south of the junction the **Moro Rock Trail** turns to the left from the Moro Road. Hikers should take this trail, as it is a pleasant route to the Rock and the return can be made by road. A few minutes climb takes us to the **Roosevelt Tree** at the summit of the trail. This sequoia is almost unscarred by fire and is noted more for its beauty than for its size. Comparatively few trees are so evenly rounded or have such soft textured bark. The **Pinchot Tree** is of much the same character and on the opposite side of the trail. The trail now descends rapidly $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. to the base of **Moro Rock**. The trail to **Moro Cliff**, a view point east of the Rock, joins ours just before we enter the road. This 5-minute side trip is most impressive if taken before Moro is climbed.

The ascent of Moro is more fully described on page 52. The view points to the westward—Moro Vista, Hanging Rock, and Valley View—are easily reached by a short trail from the main road $\frac{1}{3}$ mi. from the base of the rock and may be visited on the return to Giant Forest by road. For details concerning the 2-mi. walk in the forest by road see page 49.

Trail Trip 6

GENERAL SHERMAN TRAIL GIANT FOREST TO SHERMAN TREE via ALTA TRAIL AND SHERMAN TRAIL

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Junction with Crescent Meadow Trail	$\frac{1}{3}$	10 min.	$\frac{1}{3}$
Junction with Circle Meadow Trail	200 yds.	5	$\frac{1}{2}$
Junction at McKinley Tree	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	1
General Sherman Tree	$\frac{3}{4}$	20	$1\frac{3}{4}$

From Giant Forest the most scenic walk to General Sherman Tree is via the Alta Trail and the General Sherman Cut-off. Two or three hours should be allowed for this $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile round trip which may be varied by walking one way by road.

From Giant Forest our way lies along the **Alta Trail** (Trail Trip 7, page 82) for the first mile, as far as McKinley Tree. At the Lincoln Tree one should turn aside to the left to visit the Nursery Tree, the Window Tree, The Cloister and the Stricken Tree. At McKinley Tree the trail to the right (south) leads to The Congress and the eastern sector of Circle Meadow (Trail Trip 4, page 74) and the Alta Trail (Trail Trip 7) continues northeastward toward Canyon View and Panther Gap. To the left (northwest) is the **Sherman Trail**. After a gradual descent of $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. through the forest and after crossing two branches of **Sherman Creek**, the trail terminates at a camp road near **Sher-**

nan Tree which will be found on the opposite side of the main road. (For General Sherman Tree and Road see page 56).

REVERSE ROUTE

The trail starts from one of the **Sherman Camp** roads a short distance below (to the southeast of) the main road. Crossing two branches of **Sherman Creek**, it climbs gradually $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. to the junction with the **Alta Trail**. Here the trail to the left (northeast) leads to Panther Gap and Alta Meadow (Trail Trip 2, page 82); that straight ahead (south) to the eastern portion of Circle Meadow (Trail Trip 1, page 74); and that to the right to **Giant Forest**, 1 mi. distant. In following the latter course refer to Trail Trip 3, page 69 in order to include the interesting little side trips along the way.

Trail Trip 7

THE ALTA TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO PANTHER GAP AND ALTA MEADOW AND THE ASCENT OF ALTA PEAK

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Junction with Crescent Meadow Trail	$\frac{1}{3}$	10 min.	$\frac{1}{3}$
Junction with Circle Meadow Trail	200 yds.	5	$\frac{1}{2}$
Junction at McKinley Tree	$\frac{1}{2}$	15	1
Junction with Log Meadow Tr.	$1\frac{1}{2}$	35	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Junction with Wolverton Trail	$\frac{3}{4}$	25	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Canyon View	$1\frac{3}{4}$	40	5
Panther Meadow	$\frac{1}{4}$	5	$5\frac{1}{4}$
Panther Gap	$\frac{3}{4}$	20	6
Junction with Sevenmile Hill Trail	$\frac{3}{4}$	15	$6\frac{3}{4}$
Merten Meadow*	$1\frac{1}{4}$	50	8
Alta Meadow*	2	50	10
Alta Summit	$1\frac{1}{2}$	2 hr.	$11\frac{1}{2}$

* Best camp sites.

The round trip to the summit of Alta Peak is too long and strenuous to be enjoyed by even the most hardened walkers if taken in one day. The better plan is to allow $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 days, camp

g at Alta Meadow and making the final ascent in time for the sunrise over the Great Western Divide. By riding to Alta Meadow and return, making only the final climb afoot, the round trip may be accomplished in one long day.

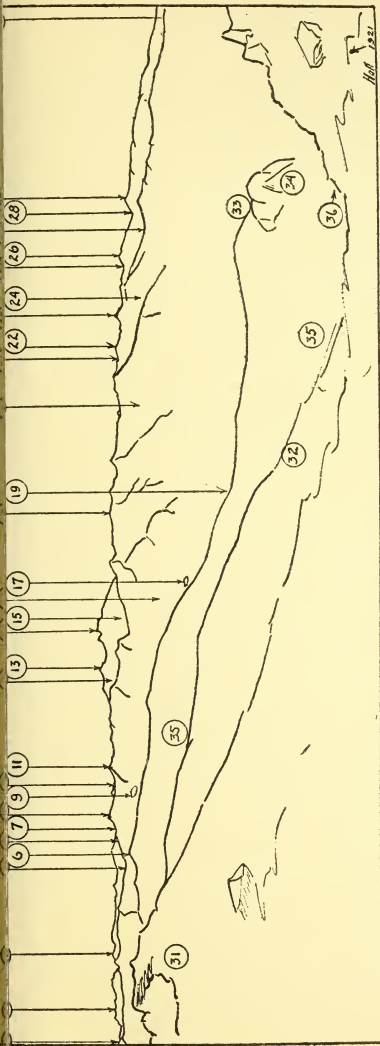
The **Alta Trail** leaves a branch road in Giant Forest about 300 yds. northeast of the post office. After an ascent of about 400 yds. a trail to the right (Trail Trip 1, page 60) leads to Crescent Meadow via Hollow Log and Washington Tree. To the left is a rough short cut to the General Sherman Road and the corrals. About 200 yds. farther up the main trail the **Circle Meadow Trail** (Trail Trip 3, page 69) takes off to the right. Continuing along our route we soon pass the **Keyhole Tree**, the silhouette of which is seen about 50 yds. to the left. The tree takes its name from the two openings in its great burned shell which resemble keyholes when viewed against the sky. The base of the tree is 33 ft. in diameter and much of it has been burned away.

A stone's throw beyond the Keyhole Tree and up at our left is the **High Pine**, a small western yellow pine growing 155 feet above the ground on the top of a dead sequoia. It is best seen from the Circle Meadow Trail a short distance to the southeast. The tree seems to have sprouted in a hollow and the visible height is 51 ft.

About $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. farther the **Lincoln Tree** (Diameter. 31 ft.; Ht. 270) is seen ahead and at the point of the trail. A strip of timber has been cleared so that one may see the tree in its entirety. From the point where the best view of the tree is obtained a short loop trail leads

to the left to several closely-placed points of interest, rejoining the Alta Trail immediately beyond the Lincoln Tree. About 50 yds. from the main trail we find the **Nursery Tree**, a giant sequoia supported on five columns, beneath the arches of which is a natural nursery of young firs. Bearing somewhat to the left for about 100 yds. we reach the **Window Tree**, an enormous burned sequoia snag honeycombed with holes. It is possible to crawl directly into the heart of this tree and, looking up, see the burned out interior lighted through the windows. Our trail now bends sharply to the right, passing through a very fine group of medium sized sequoias called **The Cloister**. The **Stricken Tree**, a short distance farther illustrates vividly the destructive force of lightning, huge fragments of its former top being scattered broadcast in the vicinity. Although greatly maimed it still maintains a healthy existence. It might be well to state here that almost every ancient sequoia has at one time or another been struck by lightning, sometimes even being badly shattered, but that during the period of white man's observation not one has been killed by this agency although the pines and firs often succumb at one stroke. Looking north from the Stricken Tree one may see the gnarled branches and rugged top of the **General Lee**. To the left is **Toadstool Rock**.

A few steps take us again to the Alta Trail. The **McKinley Tree** (Dia. 28; Ht. 291) is soon seen at the left and at this point is a trail crossing. Turning to the left is the **General Sherman Trail** (Trail Trip 6, page 80), while to the right is the trail to **Circle Meadow** (Tra



GREAT WESTERN DIVIDE FROM ALTA PEAK

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Thunder Mountain (Alt. 13,578) | 25 | Franklin Pass (11,800) |
| 2 | Table Mt. (13,646) | 26 | Florence Peak (12,405) |
| 3 | Milestone Mt. (13,643) | 27 | Timber Gap (9,450) |
| 4 | Turtle Pass (11,400) | 28 | Farewell Gap (10,588) |
| 5 | Copper Mine (12,330) | 29 | Vandever Mt. (11,800) |
| 6 | Bear Paw Mt. (11,093) | 30 | Hockett Meadow (8,400) |
| 7 | Elizabeth Pass (11,600) | 31 | Portion of Alta Peak (11,211) |
| 8 | Triple Divide Peak (12,651) | 32 | Bearpaw Meadow (7,900) |
| 9 | Lion Lake (10,950) | 33 | Redwood Meadow (6,100) |
| 10 | Mount Whitney (14,501) | 34 | Sugarbowl Dome (7,657) |
| 11 | Lion Rock (12,400) | 35 | Buck Canyon |
| 12 | Nine Lake Basin (11,000) | 36 | Direction of Alta Meadow (9,100) |

Trip 4, page 74). About $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. beyond the McKinley Tree stands the **Gothic Arch** at the left of the trail. A flying buttress on the farther side gives the tree its name.

We now suddenly leave the sequoia belt but the wild flower gardens, natural ferneries, and small meadows found among the pine forests of the next two miles make this one of the most delightful stretches of the trail. A branch trail to the right (Trail Trip 8, page 90) leads to Log Meadow, about 2 miles distant. Beyond this junction is a homesteader's cabin which was abandoned unfinished many years ago. Less than a mile farther, a trail to the left descends steeply to Long Meadow and Wolverton Camp, 1 mi. distant.

A small stream is crossed within a few minutes' walk of the trail junction and within the next $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. we pass **Log Spring** which may be found below the trail. We now mount a steep pitch and soon get our first glimpse of Mt. Silliman (Alt. 11,188) through the trees ahead. At the top of the rise is **Canyon View**, the nearly level crest of a ridge 5 mi. from Giant Forest. The best view may be obtained from a point a short distance to the north (left) of the trail. To the north Mt. Silliman is the dominating summit. The bare granite peak immediately at its right is Silver Peak (Alt. 10,237). The forested slope at the right is the western termination of Alta Ridge. To the west is a wide sweep toward the Marble Fork Canyon with the foothills of the San Joaquin Valley in the distance.

For the next mile our trail slopes more gradually. The meadow to the right soon after leaving Canyon View is **Panther Meadow** and

he tip of **Panther Peak** (Alt. 9,044) may be seen beyond. The ascent of the latter is best made by following southward to the canyon rim from a point just before the meadow is reached, thence turning eastward toward the summit. This is an easy climb of about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. There is no trail at present and one must make his way through the forest, preferably to the base of the west side. From here a short rock climb leads to the summit. The view is one of the finest in the region.

From Panther Meadow $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. takes us with comparatively easy walk to **Panther Gap** (Alt. 8,600). As we traverse the pass the **Volverton Trail** (Trail Trip 9, page 90) joins ours from the left. There is an excellent view from a short distance to the right of the trail as it nears the canyon rim. The canyon of the Middle Fork of the Kaweah drops precipitously to the south and to the southeast are the ragged summits of the Great Western Divide. The prominent notch is Farewell Gap between Florence Peak (Alt. 12,405) at the left and Sandeaver Mt. (Alt. 11,800) at the right. The latter is the highest peak in the Park. Down the canyon Moro Rock is seen at the right and across from it Castle Rocks. The tip of Panther Peak juts out above the tree tops to the westward; it may be reached from this point by a long climb along the rim (no trail).

From Panther Gap the trail follows the canyon side. A quarter mile below stands the watch tower of **Lone Rock**. The abrupt change in the composition of the forest may be noticed as we are now traversing the warm south exposure. The trees are Jeffrey pines and their

associates which are found two thousand feet lower on other slopes.

In a few hundred yds. our trail branches. To the right the **Redwood Meadow Trail** (Trail Trip 17, page 122) continues to descend into the canyon of the Kaweah. We turn to the left and soon approach a small stream. From here on water is plentiful. Bearing to the left and gradually climbing, we soon sight the promontory of **Tharps Rock** (Alt. 10,654) directly ahead on the southwest slope of Alta. A good camp site will be found at the crossing of **Merten Creek**; **Merten Meadow** may be seen below. As we approach the base of the rock our trail traverses a sloping open bench from which a greater expanse of the meadow may be seen to the right. To the left rises an immense rock slide or talus slope. This is the southwest flank of Alta Peak, the summit of which lies about 300 yds. beyond the top of the slide out of sight from the trail.

Alta Peak (Alt. 11,211) may be climbed from here or from Alta Meadow. The latter route is the easier, but if it is one's desire to go up one route and down the other, the rock slide should be taken in the ascent, for a steep downward climb over talus blocks is always to be avoided if possible. From the trail the summit is usually reached in 2 hours (carry water). Here and there will be signs of other ascents and these should be followed. The gnarled and twisted trees on the upper slopes are dwarfed foxtail pines. As the top of the rock slide is reached the summit may be seen about 300 yds. ahead across a grassy sand slope. The view from Alta is conceded first place among those of the Park; indeed, many mountaineers claim it to

be one of the best in the whole Sierra. The peaks of the Great Western Divide may be identified by the aid of the accompanying panorama and aeroplane view frontispiece. Alta Meadow lies to the southeast and the descent can be made in that direction in 30 minutes.

From the bench below Tharps Rock the trail bears to the right through the timber and crosses a spur ridge which descends from the Rock. From here it continues around a side-hill, crossing a small stream just before coming into view of **Alta Meadow** (Alt. 9,300). There is a good camp on the sandy flat near the stream at the head of the meadow. Water will be found at the lower end of the meadow and the several good camp sites there are much warmer than at the head. The trail follows eastward near the north border of the meadow to the Park line about $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. from its upper end. One of the most magnificent views from this section may be had from **Panoramic Point**, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. outside the Park. To reach this view point leave the main trail 100 yds. beyond the boundary line monument and follow the gravelly ridge toward the right to the edge of the bluff. The horizon is cut at the east and southeast by the serrate crest of the Great Western Divide; immediately below us is the granite dome of Little Blue and opposite it across Buck Canyon is Sugarbowl Dome.

Alta Peak is best climbed from the sand flat at the head of the meadow and the ascent can easily be made in 2 hours. One should bear to the right along the hillside toward the saddle in Alta Ridge east of the summit. From here the climb is westward to the top.

Trail Trip 8

THE LOG MEADOW TRAIL LOG MEADOW TO ALTA TRAIL

(2 miles: 1 hour)

The short-cut trail connecting Log Meadow with the Alta Trail has been very little used in recent years and at the time of writing could be followed only with difficulty. According to the Park Service schedule the trail was to have been repaired and brushed out so as to be well marked for the hikers of the 1921 season.

From the head of **Log Meadow** the trail leads northward, gradually climbing near the course of **Log Meadow Creek** and in $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. topping a western spur of Panther Peak. An easy grade then leads to the **Alta Trail** which is joined at a point about $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. from Giant Forest.

Trail Trip 9

WOLVERTON TRAIL

WOLVERTON CAMP TO PANTHER GAP *via* WOLVERTON CREEK

($3\frac{1}{2}$ miles: 2 hours)

This old and little used trail provides a short-cut between **Wolverton Camp** and **Panther Gap** where it connects with the Alta Trail (Trail Trip 7, page 82). In general it follows the course of Wolverton Creek. A branch to the northwest about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the Wolverton Camp terminus connects with the Marble Fork Road at a point between Wolverton Bridge and Marble Fork Camp.

Trail Trip 10

SUNSET ROCK TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO MARBLE FORK BRIDGE *via* SUNSET ROCK

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Sunset Rock	1	30 min.	1
Marble Fork Bridge	2	40	3

The short cut trail to Marble Fork Bridge saves $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. walk and is much used by hikers. From Giant Forest we follow the **General Sherman Road** around the western border of Round Meadow, branching to the left on the **Sunset Rock Road**. Near its end the trail takes off to the right and follows around the eastern and northern edge of the granite outcrop. A 2-mi. descent by switchbacks then takes us to the road at a point near **Marble Fork Bridge**.

Trail Trip 11

THE BLACK OAK TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO MUIR GROVE *via*
BLACK OAK TRAIL AND RETURN
via **HALSTEAD MEADOW**

(Reverse of Trail Trip 12)

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Marble Fork Bridge	4½	1 hr. 30 min.	4½
Beginning of Black Oak Trail	2½	1 hr.	7
Junction with Cactus Creek Trail	1½	35 min.	8½
Cactus Creek*	1	25	9½
Cave Creek	1	25	10½
Cascade Creek	3	1 hr. 15	13½
Pine Ridge	1½	1 hr.	15
Muir Grove	3	1 hr. 30	18
Dalton Tree	1	30	19
Dorst Creek*	2½	50	21½
Halstead Meadow*	5	2 hr.	26½
Suwanee Grove	1½	40	28
Marble Fork Bridge*	3½	1 hr. 15	31½
Giant Forest*	4½	1 hr. 40	36

* Best camp sites.

The trail through the unfrequented northwest corner of the Park offers an especially good 2- or 3-day round trip from Giant Forest. It traverses the Muir Grove and the Suwanee group of bigtrees. Good camp sites are numerous and several good fishing streams are passed. Golden Trout may be taken in Dorst Creek.

The main road is followed westward from Giant Forest to **Marble Fork Bridge**, $4\frac{1}{2}$ mi., but the Sunset Rock Trail (Trail Trip 10, page 91) will cut the distance to 3 mi. A short $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. beyond Marble Fork Bridge the **Halstead Meadow Trail** by which we will return enters the road at the right. Continuing $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. along the road, we find the **Black Oak Trail** leading off to the right. By this, a short climb takes us to the crest of a low ridge which is followed up a gradual ascent to a junction. The trail to the left joins the road at a point nearer Colony Mill. Passing through **The Deep Saddle** $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. from the road, the trail now descends for 1 mi. to a small stream immediately beyond which is a good camp site. The trail to the left a little farther on leads to Cactus Creek and is closed for the season of 1921.

We continue northward 1 mi. to the crossing of **Cactus Creek**. There is here a good camp site and fishing is good early in the season but late in the year forage is somewhat scarce. We now bear northwest, following a practically level route along the mountainside 1 mi. to **Cave Creek**. At the crossing is a good camp site for hikers but no grass for animals. Fishing is good. We soon round another ridge and beyond it is a long descent to **Cascade Creek**. No good camp sites will be found here. From the crossing the trail climbs upward by switch-

backs through the heavy timber. Just beyond the first ridge a trail will be noticed leading downward toward the left. About 300 yds. down this path is a spring and a good camp site. This subsidiary trail leads by way of Cow Creek to the Giant Forest Road just below the Park line.

The main trail continues a short distance by very easy grade to the summit of **Pine Ridge**, (Alt. 5,900). A little farther is a good camping ground at a small stream crossing. A series of zig zags now takes us up the canyon side and over a ridge to the north from which an easy descent is made to the beginning of the **Muir Grove** through which we now follow for more than a mile. Then follows a short climb to another ridge crest where we find the **Dalton Tree** (Dia. 27; Ht. 292) immediately at the right of the trail. From the heights we obtain a wide view up Dorst Creek toward the high country to the eastward.

From the Dalton Tree the trail passes along a steep hillside, crosses a small stream, and surmounts a gravelly point. From here an easy grade, passing an occasional meadow leads to the crossing of **Dorst Creek** and the junction with the Halstead Meadow Trail which will form our homeward route. In the vicinity are many good camp sites with several meadows within a short distance. The creek is stocked with Golden Trout in addition to other species and the fishing is usually good. From the opposite bank of the stream a trail crosses **Cabin Meadow Creek** and then branches to the right and leads to Cabin Meadow Ranger Station, 1 mi. distant, where telephone connections may be had with Giant Forest. At Cabin Meadow

re many good camp sites and excellent feed for stock. The left fork of the trail just beyond Cabin Meadow Creek leads to General Grant National Park via the following route: Dorst Creek to Stony Meadow $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi.; Beartrap Meadow $3\frac{1}{2}$ mi.; Rabbit Meadow $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi.; Quail Flat 3 mi.; General Grant National Park 6 mi.

At the Dorst Creek crossing the **Halstead Meadow** Trail, our homeward route, turns sharply to the right. In $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. we cross **Little Baldy Creek** where a short-cut trail to the right leads to the Black Oak Trail which it joins near Cactus Creek, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant. Another trail branching to the left just beyond the creek leads to Colony Meadow, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. We now ascend eastward and southward to the summit of a high ridge (Alt. 7,900). From here our course lies southward, passing downward through a forested country and occasional small meadows to **Halstead Meadow**, (Alt. 6,900). This is a fine camp site with a fenced pasture for the use of tourists. The fishing is usually good in Halstead Creek. The dome of **Little Baldy** (Alt. 8,043) is 1 mi. westward and may easily be reached by a moderately steep climb through the timber. From the summit is a wide panorama. An old trail leaving the east side of Halstead Meadow follows northward, connecting in $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. at the top of the ridge with the Cabin Meadow-Clover Creek Trail. At this junction the trail to the left leads to Colony Meadow, $\frac{1}{4}$ mi., and across the canyon of Dorst Creek to Cabin Meadow, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. The right hand trail connects with the Kings River Canyon Trail at Clover Creek Ranger Station, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant.

From the lower end of Halstead Meadow our main trail continues southward, crossing **Suwanee Creek** after 1 mi. Good fishing is to be had here early in the season. Another $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. takes us to the **Suwanee Grove** of big trees. Soon after the crossing of a small stream, a long moderately steep descent leads to the **Giant Forest Road**, which it joins at a point a little less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. from the Marble Fork Bridge. Another $4\frac{1}{2}$ mi. by road or 3 mi. by the Sunset Rock Trail (Trail Trip 10, page 91) takes us to **Giant Forest**.

Trail Trip 12
HALSTEAD MEADOW TRAIL
DIANT FOREST TO MUIR GROVE *via*
HALSTEAD MEADOW AND DORST
CREEK AND RETURN *via* **BLACK**
OAK TRAIL
(Reverse of Trail Trip 11)

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Diant Forest to Marble Fork Bridge	4½	1 hr. 30 min.	4½
Beginning of Halstead Meadow Trail	½	10	5
Swanee Grove	3	1 hr. 30	8
Halstead Meadow*	1½	40	9½
Dorst Creek*	5	2 hr.	14½
Elton Tree, Muir Grove	2½	1 hr.	17
De Ridge	4	2 hr.	21
Scade Creek	1½	40	22½
Ve Creek	3	1 hr. 15	25½
Cactus Creek*	1	25	26½
Junction with Cactus Creek Tr.	1	25	27½
Diant Forest Road	1½	30	29
Marble Fork Bridge*	2½	1 hr.	31½
Diant Forest*	4½	1 hr. 40	36

*Best camp sites.

The section of the Park lying north and west of the Marble Fork is one of the most attractive

camping regions near Giant Forest, yet despite its ready accessibility it is but little known to tourists. The following trip may be completed in two days of steady walking, but an extra day should be allowed if possible. Good camping places are numerous and fishing will be found good in several streams.

From Giant Forest we may follow the main road westward $4\frac{1}{2}$ mi. to **Marble Fork Bridge**. The steeper trail via Sunset Rock (Trail Trip 10, page 91) is $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. shorter. A little less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. beyond the bridge our trail starts at the right of the road and from here we begin our long 1,800-ft. climb to Halstead Meadow. We mount steadily northwestward up a well wooded ridge and after about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. may observe an old trail joining ours from the left. This descends to Colony Mill on the Giant Forest Road. We continue to climb, now bearing more to the northward and eastward. Just after crossing a small stream ($3\frac{1}{2}$ mi. from the road) we enter the **Suwanee Grove**, a small group of medium sized sequoias. In $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. **Suwanee Creek** is crossed. Fishing is good early in the season.

A gradual climb to the northward now takes us in about 1 mi. to **Halstead Meadow** (Alt. 6,900). At this fine camp site the Park Service maintains a pasture for tourists' horses. Fishing is generally good in **Halstead Creek** downstream from the meadow. The dome of **Little Baldy** (Alt. 8,033) lies about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. westward and may easily be reached by a moderately steep 1,100-ft. climb through the timber. The panorama from the summit is well worth this two-hour side trip. An old trail leaving the east side of Halstead Meadow follows north-

yard, connecting in $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. at the top of the ridge with the Cabin Meadow-Clover Creek Trail. At this junction the trail to the left leads to Colony Meadow, $\frac{1}{4}$ mi., and across the canyon of Dorst Creek to Cabin Meadow, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. The right hand trail connects with the Kings River Canyon Trail at Clover Creek Ranger Station, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant.

Our trail leaves the western margin of Halstead Meadow and climbs westward and northward through a forested country with occasional small meadows and, passing through a timbered saddle (Alt. 7,900), turns westward. From here is a long 1,500 descent. Just before reaching the crossing of **Little Baldy Creek** we observe a trail branching to the right. This leads to Colony Meadow, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant. Just beyond the creek a short-cut trail to the left leads to the Black Oak Trail which it joins near Cactus Creek, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant. A $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. descent now takes us to **Dorst Creek**, one of the best camping regions in this section of the Park. Forage will be found at several nearby meadows. The creek is well stocked with Golden Trout and other species and fishing is generally good. From the opposite bank of the stream a trail crosses **Cabin Meadow Creek** and then branches to the right and leads to Cabin Meadow Ranger Station, 1 mi. distant, where telephone connections may be had with Giant Forest. Forage is abundant at Cabin Meadow and many good camp sites will there be found. The left fork of the trail just beyond Cabin Meadow Creek leads to General Grant National Park via the following route: Dorst Creek to Stony Meadow $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi.; Beartrap

Meadow $3\frac{1}{2}$ mi.; Rabbit Meadow $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi.
Quail Flat 3 mi.; General Grant National
Park 6 mi.

Our trail to Muir Grove branches sharply to the left from the Halstead Meadow Trail as Dorst Creek is approached. We now bear southwest past an occasional meadow and after a gradual climb pass over a gravelly point and down a short grade to a small stream crossing. From here is a gradual ascent along a well forested hillside. At the summit of the ridge is the **Dalton Tree** (Dia. 27 ft.; Ht. 292 ft.), the Giant of the **Muir Grove**. For the following 2 mi. we traverse the Grove, first zig zagging down to a small stream crossing and then following a long, practically level stretch. We now cross another spur ridge and another series of steep switchbacks, passing the last of the sequoias just before reaching a small stream. There is here a camp site for a party with but a few horses and feed will be found at small meadows upstream from the crossing.

An easy grade now leads for a short distance to the summit of **Pine Ridge** (Alt. 5,900). Just before the crest is crossed a trail to the right leads by the way of Cow Creek to the Giant Forest Road just below the Park line. About 300 yds. down this path is a spring and a good camp site. The main trail now crosses Pine Ridge and zig zags down a steep hillside for $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. to Cascade Creek. There is no good camp site at the crossing.

From Cascade Creek we climb for more than a mile around a spur ridge, after which the grade lessens and the trail follows around a long side hill. A detour may be necessary because of the boggy trail as **Cave Creek** is approached.

There is space here for a camp but no forage. The stream contains trout. Our trail now follows a practically level route around the mountainside for 1 mi. to **Cactus Creek**. At the crossing is a good camp site and feed for a few animals. Fishing is good early in the season.

Our trail now bears southward on easy grade and a 25-minute walk takes us to the junction with the Cactus Creek Trail which is closed for the season of 1921. A good camp site will be found at the small stream just beyond the junction. From here a gradual ascent of 1 mi. takes us to **The Deep Saddle** where we cross the ridge. Beyond the summit the trail forks, both branches leading to the **Giant Forest Road**. The left branch is the shorter for those going to Giant Forest and joins the road after about $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. descent.

To the right, the road leads to Three Rivers and Visalia and to the left to Giant Forest. Turning to the left, we cross **Marble Fork Bridge** $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. after entering the road. From here **Giant Forest** is $4\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant by road or 3 mi. by the steeper Sunset Rock Trail which starts just beyond the bridge.

Trail Trip 13

TWIN LAKES TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO TWIN LAKES *via* CLOVER CREEK AND THE ASCENT OF MT. SILLIMAN

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Wolverton Creek	3¾	1 hr. 25 min.	3¾
Marble Fork Crossing*	1½	30	5¼
Willow Meadow	1½	1 hr.	6¾
Silliman Creek	¼	10	7
Cahoon Meadow	1	40	8
E. Fork Clover Creek*	3	1 hr. 30	11
Twin Lakes*	2	1 hr. 30	13
Silliman Lakes	1	1 hr. 20	14
Summit of Mt. Silliman	1	1 hr. 40	15

*Best camp sites.

One of the best trail trips in the Giant Forest region and one which should be much better known is the excursion to Twin Lakes. Good hikers make the round trip from Marble Fork Camp in one day, but from Giant Forest the round trip is too fatiguing to be attempted between sunrise and sunset. If Mt. Silliman is to be climbed, 2 or 2½ days should be allowed. There are several good camp sites en route and at the lakes where fishing, as in all mountain

lakes, is sometimes excellent and at other times not.

From Giant Forest we follow **General Sherman Road** (see page 56) to **Marble Fork**, $5\frac{1}{4}$ mi. A sign indicates the best ford. No water will be found for the next $1\frac{3}{4}$ mi. Our trail immediately starts a long hot ascent, bearing to the westward up a brushy slope, then swinging northward to a bench land near Silliman Creek. The fir and pine forest now becomes more dense and our trail crosses a more level country to **Willow Meadow**. This is a fairly good camp site. **Silliman Creek** which is crossed about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. further offers a fair camp site.

We now cross Silliman Creek and start the hot and dusty 1-hr. climb up **Manzanita Hill** by short switchbacks. Soon we pass to the right of **Cahoon Meadow**. This is a beautiful garden spot nestled in its miniature canyon. The two best camp sites are at the point where the trail approaches nearest the meadow and at its extreme head.

Skirting to the east of the meadow, our trail continues to climb the western side of a ridge from which may be seen glimpses of Mt. Silliman, (Alt. 11,188) toward the east. Crossing a flat divide at the head of the 900 ft. ascent, we soon descend through the lodgepole pine forest to the **East Fork of Clover Creek**. There are many good camp sites and abundant forage in the vicinity. Passing through a gate we soon halt at the **Clover Creek Ranger Station** where phone connections may be had with Giant Forest and outside lines.

The trail to "J. O." Pass and Kings River Canyon (Trail Trips 14 and 15, pages 106-112)

continues northward, but we bear eastward at the Ranger Station or before crossing the stream. A trail to the west leads to Colony Meadow, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant. The **Twin Lakes Trail** parallels the main branch of Clover Creek which cascades beautifully at the left. A 1500 ft. climb in the next 2 mi. leads through a picturesque country which is especially noted for its fine wild flowers. A cool spring will be found near the end of the climb.

Twin Lakes, lying at an altitude of 9,900 ft. in a glacial cirque beneath Silliman Crest offer an excellent location for a fixed camp away from the crowds of Giant Forest and this is the best location for a base camp from which to ascend Mt. Silliman. The smaller lake lies just north of the one which is first reached by the trail. Fishing is sometimes very good, but is exceedingly variable on different days as is the case with most Sierra lakes. To the north, **Twin Peaks** (Alt. 10,501) rise 600 ft. above. They may be ascended without especial difficulty by following around the upper end of the smaller lake and bearing northwestward, finally turning abruptly to the north toward the base of the highest peak. From here is a difficult rock climb to the summit from which is obtained a splendid view. Another route to the summit is to follow up the canyon from the larger lake then through the timber to the east base of the larger peak.

Mt. Silliman lies to the southeast and is not visible from the lakes. The summit can be reached by a reasonably easy 3-hour climb. One should follow a short distance around the south shore of the lower lake and climb a steep chute to the right where traces of an old sheep

trail may still be discerned. From the top of the chute where the ridge is reached, we turn to the left and follow up **Silliman Crest** in a southeasterly direction. After $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. of easy climbing along the granite of the ridge we obtain our first good view of the summit with an attractive amphitheatre at its west. In this cirque are nestled the two little **Silliman Lakes** 1,300 ft. below the summit. They may best be visited in the descent from the peak. Continuing our climb, we make our way along the western base of a sharp ridge which juts out to the northward. This takes us to a point a little south of west from the summit, from which place several chimneys lead upward in the direction of the top. Selecting one of these, we turn sharply to the left and climb 400 ft. up the talus slope to the summit.

In descending we bear for the saddle between the main peak and the lower peak to the westward. At a very decided notch we turn to the right and descend a long steep snow slope which offers a splendid slide for several hundred feet. From the base, **Silliman Lakes** (Alt. 9,700) are easily reached. Fishing is reported excellent. It is advisable for hikers to descend **Silliman Creek** (no trail) keeping on the east side for 1 mi., thence on the west side for 1 mi., thence again on the east side for 3 mi., joining the Giant Forest Trail at a point near Willow Meadow.

Another route in climbing Mt. Silliman is to follow the canyon (northeastward) from the lower lake to the base of Twin Peaks, thence bearing southward along a rough but almost level granite stretch to the foot of the final climb which has already been described.

Trail Trip 14

KINGS CANYON TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO KINGS RIVER CANYON *via* "J. O." PASS

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Wolverton Creek	3¾	1 hr. 35 min.	3¾
Marble Fork Crossing*	1½	30	5¼
Willow Meadow	1½	45	6¾
Silliman Creek	¼	10	7
Cahoon Meadow	1	1 hr.	8
E. Fork Clover Creek*	3	1 hr. 30	11
"J. O." Pass	2	1 hr.	13
Rowell Meadow*	4	1 hr. 30	17
Marvin Pass	2	40	19
Horse Corral Meadow*	3	1 hr.	22
Summit Meadow*	2½	1 hr.	24½
Summit	½	15	25
Cedar Grove R. S.*	4	1 hr. 30	29
Kings River Canyon Camp	7	2 hr. 30	36

*Best camp sites.

It is regrettable that so many thousands of people have visited Giant Forest within the

past few years without having seen the magnificent gorge of Kings River Canyon which lies but 36 mi. northward. The trip to the canyon can be accomplished in two days of travel, either walking or horseback, with a stop over night at the camp at Horse Corral Meadow. A chain of lodges has recently been established so that any one can make this trip in comfort, either riding or walking, in 4 days, being assured of comfortable beds and good meals en route. By an additional 2 days travel, one may also visit General Grant Park where there is another attractive mountain camp near the giant sequoias.

From Giant Forest our route lies northward via the **Marble Fork Road** (see page 56) $5\frac{1}{4}$ mi., thence by trail via Willow Meadow and Cahoon Meadow (Trail Trip 13, page 102) to the **East Fork of Clover Creek**. Near the Clover Creek Ranger Station, the trail to Twin Lakes turns to the eastward, but we choose the left branch which climbs the hill to the northward and in less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. passes out of the Park and into the **Sequoia National Forest**. During the mile of steady climbing some extensive views open up toward the eastward. Another mile of easy grade leads to "**J. O.**" **Pass** (Alt. 9,410). The name comes from the large "J. O." carved on the trunk of a lodgepole pine at the left of the trail about 100 ft. from the summit. An interesting story is told about a sheepman of the early days who left these marks at intervals so that his brother might follow him into the mountains.

The trail to the left just beyond the summit leads to Jennie Lake (Alt. 9,100) which is 2 mi. distant to the northwestward. There is a good

camp at the lake, but forage is somewhat sparse. The lake contains some large trout and fishing is said to be good. An old trail continues to Big Meadows, connecting with a well traveled route to General Grant Park (Trail Trip 15, page 112). Distances: "J. O." Pass to Jennie Lake 2 mi., Poison Meadow 5 mi., Fox Meadow 2 mi., Big Meadow 2 mi.

From "J. O." Pass the main trail to Kings River skirts to the right of a small boggy meadow which is a possible emergency camp but not especially desirable. The old and shorter trail bears to the right just below the summit, saving $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. between here and Rowell Meadow. The practically level new trail takes a northward course and, after 2 mi. begins its descent to Rowell Meadow. Those following U. S. G. S. topographic maps almost invariably look for Profile View, but the new trail passes to the westward of this viewpoint from which a silhouette of Mt. Silliman and the Great Western Divide was seen toward the east. A half mile before Rowell Meadows is reached a trail to the left leads to Big Meadow.

Rowell Meadow (Alt. 8,800) lies in the large flat basin at the head-waters of an eastern branch of **Boulder Creek**. It offers excellent camp sites but forage is not always abundant on account of the numerous cattle and the fenced private land. At the U. S. Forest Service Ranger Station telephone communications can be had through General Grant Park. A trail to the eastward leads to Roaring River and Deadman Canyon. (Trail Trip 16, page 116), and one to the west leads to General Grant National Park via Big Meadow or Bearskin Meadow, (Trail Trip 15, page 112.)

Our trail leads northward up a small tributary of Boulder Creek climbing gradually 350 ft. in 1 mi. to **Marvin Pass** (Alt. 9,150) which lies between **Mt. Maddox** (Alt. 9,723) at the west and **Mitchell Peak** (Alt. 10,375) at the east. In the following 3 mi. we descend 1,500 ft., much of it by long steep zig zags. Approaching a small stream which flows westward into Boulder Creek, we observe a trail to the right which is the direct route to Kings River Canyon via Summit Meadow. Beware of the old and almost impassable trail farther to the right leading to Roaring River. We turn to the left, soon reaching the upper end of **Horse Corral Meadow** (Alt. 7,645). The tourist camp, where accommodations may be had, is about $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. westward. The meadows are largely privately owned and fenced but forage is generally to be found in outlying places. The trails to General Grant National Park (Trail Trip 15, page 112) bear to the westward and a trail to the northward leads 4 mi. to a lookout point on the south rim of Kings River Canyon.

Our trail bears northeastward from a point near the head of the meadow. An easy climb of $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. through the woods takes us past **Summit Meadow** (Alt. 7,900), a good camp site, with grass usually abundant in the tourist pasture. A short distance beyond the meadow we cross **The Summit** (Alt. 8,050). **Lookout Peak** (Alt. 8,547) may be reached by a 500-ft. climb to the northward and offers a splendid view of Kings River Canyon and the mountains beyond.

We now descend steadily for the first mile along a steep hillside east of Lookout Peak and then for $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. along a spur ridge. The rest

of the descent to the floor of the canyon is by steep switchbacks which gradually approach **Sheep Creek** which is crossed just as we reach the floor of Kings Canyon. The stock driveway offers a saving of $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. on the downward trip. Shortly farther is the Cedar Grove Ranger Station (Alt. 4,631) which was formerly Cedar Grove Hotel. Here telephone connections with outside lines may be had over the U. S. Forest Service wire.

There are two trails up the canyon, one on either side of the river. That on the south side is a little shorter, but the upper bridge has been swept away and the best trail follows up the opposite side of the river. Trails lead down the canyon on either side, but we follow the gorge eastward for 7 mi. climbing in this distance but 400 ft. The **Kings Canyon Camp** is on **Copper Creek** just beneath the **Grand Sentinel** (Alt. 8,514), a massive promontory of the south wall. Comfortable accommodations are available and a small store is also maintained here by the Kings River Parks Co. Several trails lead from here to points farther in the high country to the east, north, and south, a wild and rugged alpine region which offers every attraction to the mountaineer.

TRAILS TO GENERAL GRANT NATIONAL PARK

General Grant National Park was created by Congress to preserve the General Grant Tree, the second largest Sequoia known. Within its four square miles is a magnificent grove of Sequoias, one hundred and ninety of which are

over ten feet in diameter. Most of the thousands of visitors drive to the park by the roads from Fresno and other San Joaquin Valley points. In spite of the fact that an 82 mi. drive would be necessary to reach General Grant Park from Giant Forest, it is but 16 mi. distant to the northwest as the eagle flies, and may be reached by several good trails which pass through an especially attractive country. Those camping at the Forest may easily arrange at the Giant Forest Lodge to make the trip in the greatest of comfort, riding 22 mi. the first day to Horse Corral Meadow, (Trail Trip 13 and 14, pages 102-106), where a camp is operated by the Kings River Parks Co., and 18 mi. the second day to General Grant Park, (Trail Trip 15, page 112), where a comfortable camp is maintained by the same company. This trip may be extended by two days travel to permit a visit to the Kings River Canyon (Trail Trip 14, page 106), where excellent accommodations will be found at the camp. Two good trails lead more directly from Giant Forest to General Grant National Park, one via the Muir Grove of Big Trees, (Trail Trip 11, page 92), and the other via Halstead Meadow, (Trail Trip 12, page 97). There is also an old trail leading from "J. O." Pass, past Jennie Lake, to Big Meadow, where the Big Meadow Trail (Trail Trip 15, page 112) is joined. These latter trails are not as widely traveled as the route first mentioned, but they offer scenic alternative routes to those with their own camping outfits.

Trail Trip 15

GENERAL GRANT TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO GENERAL GRANT NATIONAL PARK
via HORSE CORRAL MEADOW

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Marble Fork Crossing*	5	2 hr.	5
E. Fork Clover Creek*	5	2 hr. 30	10
"J. O." Pass	2	1 hr. 5	12
Rowell Meadow*	3¾	1 hr. 25	15¾
Marvin Pass	1	20	16¾
Horse Corral Meadow*	3	1 hr. 25	19¾
Northern Trail	Horse Corral Meadow to Boulder Creek	3½	23¼
	Big Tree Grove*	1	24¼
	Burton Meadow*	3½	27¾
	Burton Pass	½	28¼
	Sequoia Spring	1	29¼
	Landslide Meadow*	1	30¼
	Hume Road Junction	1	31¼
	Bearskin Meadow	1	32¼
	Park Ridge	4	36¼
	General Grant P. O.*	1½	37¾
Southern Trail	Horse Corral Meadow to Boulder Creek	3½	23¼
	Big Meadow*	4¾	28
	Rabbit Meadow*	2	30
	Woodcock Meadow	1½	31½
	Quail Flat	2½	34
	Bacon Meadow	1	35
	Log Corral Meadow	2	37
	Park Ridge	1	38
	General Grant P. O.	2	40

* Best camp sites.

Of the several trails which connect Giant Forest with General Grant National Park those by far the most used pass through Horse Corral Meadow where a tourist camp provides accommodations at the half-way point in this 2-day horseback or walking trip. From Horse Corral Meadow there are two routes to General Grant Park, the southern via Big Meadows being somewhat the easier and the northern via Burton Pass being the shorter and more scenic. Fishing is good in almost all of the streams.

The first day's journey from **Giant Forest** to Horse Corral Meadow is outlined in detail in previously described trips (Marble Fork Road, page 42; Trail Trips 13 and 14, pages 102 and 106). From the tourist camp at **Horse Corral Meadow** we bear westward near the north bank of the stream. In about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. our trail is joined from the south by the Sunset Meadow Trail from Rowell Meadow. We now descend towards **Boulder Creek** (good fishing) and our trail forks, offering two alternative routes to our destination. The southern route via Big Meadows and Quail Flat is partly by road and partly by trail. The northern trail via Burton Pass and Bearskin Meadow, although somewhat steeper, is much the more scenic route, passing through a well watered country and leading through several small sequoia groves.

NORTHERN ROUTE

The southern trail crosses a bridge but our trail descends towards the west to the crossing of **Boulder Creek**. For the following few miles we climb steadily with occasional dips into cross canyons of the tributaries of Boulder Creek. About 1 mi. beyond the ford we traverse a small

but unusually fine grove of big trees. There is here a camp site for a small party and feed enough for a few head of stock.

An easy ascent of $3\frac{1}{2}$ mi., during which we pass through another grove of sequoias, now takes us to **Burton Meadow** (Alt. 7,400) an excellent camp site with a pasture for the use of tourists. An easy rise of $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. leads to **Burton Pass** (Alt. 7,600) the summit of **Sequoia Ridge**. Here a trail joining ours from the left follows southward along the ridge to the U. S. Forest Service lookout at Buck Rock and to Weston Meadow. An abrupt descent down the western slope of Sequoia Ridge takes us in about 1 mi. to **Sequoia Spring** and a small grove of big trees in a steep canyon. About an hour's walk farther is **Landslide Meadow**, an attractive camp site. We now cross the **Hume-Quail Flat Road** and 1 mi. more takes us to **Bearskin Meadow** (Alt. 5,700). This was once one of the most attractive spots in the region but since the forest surrounding it was logged it offers a possible, but not especially attractive camp site.

Now follows a steady climb of 4 mi. during which a fine panorama opens up toward the east. Shortly after crossing the crest of **Park Ridge** (Alt. 7,400) we enter **General Grant National Park** and a fairly easy descent of 30 to 45 minutes takes us to General Grant Camp, store, and post office.

SOUTHERN ROUTE

The southern route between Horse Corral Meadow and General Grant National Park via Big Meadows is a little longer and less scenic

than the northern route but the grades are easier. Water is scarce late in the season in the region west of Boulder Creek.

At the trail junction near **Boulder Creek** we turn to the left and descend a short distance to a bridge near the mouth of **Big Meadow Creek**. For the first $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. there is a sharp climb up the canyon side well above this tributary stream, but following this are several miles of almost level country.

Big Meadows (Alt. 7,659) are 8 mi. from Horse Corral Meadow. There are many good camping places but water is scarce in the dry season and there may be difficulty in finding feed due to cattle. We now enter a road which we follow westward for about 5 mi. through **Rabbit Meadow** (Alt. 7,200), and **Woodcock Meadow** (Alt. 7,300) to **Quail Flat** (Alt. 7,000). We here leave the road and follow the trail leading northwestward.

A climb of about 1 mi. takes us to **Bacon Meadow** (Alt. 7,300) and 2 mi. farther is **Log Corral Meadow** (Alt. 7,225). From this latter point a 45 minute climb sees us at the summit of **Park Ridge** (Alt. 7,350) from which is a fair view both eastward and westward. Descending abruptly from the top of the ridge we soon enter **General Grant National Park** and a 30 or 40 minute walk takes us to General Grant Camp, the store, and post office.

Trail Trip 16

ROARING RIVER AND DEADMAN CANYON TRAIL

**GIANT FOREST TO DEADMAN CANYON *via* ROWELL
MEADOW AND ROARING RIVER AND RETURN
via TURTLE PASS AND PANTHER GAP**

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Marble Fork Crossing	5	2 hr.	5
E. Fork Clover Creek*	5	2 hr. 30	10
"J. O." Pass	2	1 hr. 5	12
Rowell Meadow*	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 hr. 25	15 $\frac{3}{4}$
Comanche Meadow	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 hr. 5	19 $\frac{1}{4}$
Sugarloaf Meadow*	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	35	21
Bog Meadow	3	1 hr. 15	24
Scaffold Meadow*, Roaring River	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 hr. 25	27 $\frac{1}{2}$
Deadman Canyon*, near Bird Lake	8	3 hr. 35	35 $\frac{1}{2}$
Turtle (Elizabeth) Pass	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 hr. 25	40
Middle Fork Kaweah River*	5	2 hr. 10	45
Bearpaw Meadow	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 hr. 10	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wet Meadow	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	30	49
Junction with Redwood Meadow Trail	3	1 hr.	52
Buck Canyon Crossing	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 hr.	54 $\frac{1}{2}$
Junction with Alta Trail	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 hr. 45	59 $\frac{3}{4}$
Panther Gap	$\frac{3}{4}$	20	60 $\frac{1}{2}$
Giant Forest*	6	2 hr.	66 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bearpaw Meadow to Buck Canyon Crossing	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	45	49
Creek at summit of grade	5	2 hr. 40	54
Alta Meadow*	1	25	55
Merten Meadow*	2	55	57
Giant Forest*	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 hr. 40	64 $\frac{3}{4}$

*Best camp sites.

One of the wildest and most spectacular high mountain trips which is most conveniently taken from Giant Forest as a "jumping off place" is that up Deadman Canyon and over Turtle Pass (incorrectly known as Elizabeth Pass) to the headwaters of the Kaweah. This is practically identical with the trip so thrillingly described by Stewart Edward White in his book "The Pass." Five days of travel are necessary for this tour but more time should be allowed if possible, for camping conditions are ideal and fishing is the very best. From "J. O." Pass to Deadman Canyon feed is sometimes scarce because of the heavy grazing.

The trip from **Giant Forest** to Rowell Meadow, 22 mi., can be made in one long day, (see Marble Fork Road page 42; Trail Trips 13 and 14, pages 102.106). **Rowell Meadow** (Alt. 8,800) is a good camp site, usually with plenty of feed. To the west is the trail to General Grant National Park via Sunset Meadow, while to the northward is the trail to Kings River Canyon via Marvin Pass (Trial Trip 14, page 106). Our trail turns to the right (southeast) at the cattleman's cabin beside the stream. The beginning of the trail may be somewhat obscured by the numerous cattle paths.

A gradual climb of about 500 ft. through the open fir and pine forest takes us through a gap after about 1 mi. From the summit a fine view opens up toward the high mountains in the east and now begins an easy descent of 1,400 ft. in the next $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. to **Comanche Meadow** (Alt. 7,950) which is on a small northern tributary of Sugarloaf Creek. Near the creek is a junction with the Marvin Pass Trail which enters from the north, passing through Williams Meadow

$\frac{1}{2}$ mi. distant. Crossing the stream, our trail now bears southeast around the flank of the mountain, keeping well above **Sugarloaf Creek** which is in the canyon to the right. The **Sugarloaf** comes into view directly ahead and as we near it a small stream is crossed. **Sugarloaf Meadow** (Alt. 7,358), a fair camp site but somewhat boggy, is but a few hundred yards distant and may be reached by taking the branch trail to the left shortly before crossing this small stream. The main trail continues down the north side of Sugarloaf Creek. A branch to the right in $1\frac{1}{4}$ mi. leads steeply down to a fine little meadow near the main stream. This is a good camp site and fishing is excellent everywhere in the vicinity. About $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. beyond the above turn-off and at a point where the stream turns to the northward we ford to the opposite bank and continue eastward. **Bog Creek** is crossed after about 1 mi. Bog Meadow is upstream a short distance and is not an especially desirable camp site. A short distance now takes us to **Ferguson Creek** (good fishing), from which is a sharp climb of about 300 ft. over a spur of **Moraine Ridge**. The panorama of the Great Western Divide toward the east is exceedingly fine. Especially prominent is Mt. Brewer (Alt. 13,577) with its North Guard (Alt. 13,304) and South Guard (Alt. 13,232). To the southeast is Table Mt. (Alt. 13,646) with Thunder Mt. (Alt. 13,578) at its left and The Milestone (Alt. 13,643) at its right.

There now follows a sharp zig zag descent to **Roaring River** (fine fishing) which is ascended for about 1 mi. to the bridge near **Scaffold Meadow**. The meadow is a short distance

down stream on the opposite bank. There are several good camp sites in the vicinity of the bridge among which is the one occupied by Stewart Edward White when he wrote "The Pass." About 2 mi. above Scaffold Meadow the canyon divides. To the left (southeast) is **Cloudy Canyon** and to the right (south) is the true **Deadman Canyon**. It is well to note here that these two canyons are incorrectly designated on the U. S. Geological Survey topographic maps.

From Scaffold Meadow a trail follows up the east bank of Roaring River to the head of Cloudy Canyon, crossing Miner's Pass into the head of Deadman Canyon. Our trail remains on the west side of Roaring River, gradually bearing southward into the mouth of Deadman Canyon. Ascending the canyon, the forests become more and more sparse and the walls become more and more rugged until we are finally in as fine a U-shaped glacial trough as can be found in all the Sierra. At a point about 4 mi. above the mouth of the canyon the trail passes the lone grave of "the deadman" after whom the canyon takes its name. The grave is that of a sheepman who was murdered here in 1887. The upper portion of the canyon descends in a series of terraces, each with its little mountain meadow and small groves of red fir, lodgepole pine, or quaking aspen. Many good camp sites will be found and fishing is excellent. Near the head of the canyon is the prominent **Big Bird Peak** (Alt. 11,600) with **Big Bird Lake** (Alt. 10,050; incorrectly called Dollar Lake), in a precipitous glacial amphitheater at its right.

The lake may be reached by a $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. scramble

over the granite, the best route being some little distance south of the outlet. It is surrounded by exceedingly rugged and picturesque cliffs and contains some of the largest trout in the region.

Deadman Canyon terminates in a huge high-walled glacial cirque with apparently no possibility of an outlet by trail. At the last meadow our trail bears to the left just before reaching a point where the creek descends in a series of cascades and from here it follows a rough and rather poorly marked route across the talus slopes. After crossing a small stream we bear to the right, following the stone "ducs" or monuments. At a point about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. beyond the creek a branch trail is monumented to the left. This leads to the **Copper Mine** at the summit of Glacier Ridge just opposite, where the red color of the ore-bearing rock may be observed. Passing through Miners' Pass the trail follows a knife edge for some distance and then descends into Cloudy Canyon at a point near The Whaleback. On the descent a glacier-polished slope of great extent is passed.

Our main trail turns to the right from the junction and is poorly marked in some places but in no place is it dangerous. The route followed by White and the *col* which he named **Elizabeth Pass** are directly at the head of the canyon, but we bear farther to the west to the gap which has long been known in the region as **Turtle Pass** (Alt. 11,400). From the summit is a wide view westward across Buck Canyon toward Alta Peak.

The route followed in the descent is perfectly obvious after the first rocky stretch near the top. About 1,500 ft. below the pass a magni-

ficient view of the Great Western Divide opens up toward the south. Timberline is reached just before crossing a small stream where there is a possible camp with forage enough for a small party. Now follows a steep descent by switchbacks through the red fir forest with many fine views across the mighty canyon of the Kaweah. A sandy flat at the bottom of the gorge is reached at an altitude of about 8,100. From this point on the trail is easily followed.

If one has a day to spare he can do no better than to follow up the canyon which shows well the evidences of glacial sculpture and polish. **Lonepine Meadow** (Alt. 8,800), 2 mi. above, is reached by a fairly good trail and is a good camping place. **Tamarack Lake** (Alt. 9,250) is 2 mi. farther by a poor trail which crosses to the south side of the stream. It is a particularly fine camp site and fishing is good. **Lion Lake** (Alt. 11,000) lies at the head of the canyon at the foot of Triple Divide Peak (Alt. 12,651). It can be reached by a 2½ mi. scramble over the granite south of the stream (no trail). No fishing is reported.

Our main trail follows down the **Middle Fork** of the **Kaweah** and bears southwest along the canyon wall to **Bearpaw Meadow**. This portion of the trail passes through a beautiful forest and commands some of the most magnificent views of the Great Western Divide. At the head of Deer Creek Canyon opposite, Black Kaweah is seen beyond the Big Arroyo. At Bearpaw Meadow (Alt. 7,700) there is a spring but this is a poor camp site because the feed is usually kept closely cropped by cattle.

From Bearpaw Meadow to Giant Forest we have two alternative trails, via Buck Canyon and Alta Meadow or via Wet Meadow and the Redwood Meadow Trail. The first of these is steep, rough, and brushy between Buck Canyon and Alta Meadow. It is the more direct and more scenic route and, although rough, is to be preferred.

BUCK CANYON AND ALTA MEADOW TRAIL

At **Bearpaw Meadow** the route is poorly marked because of cattle trails. The general trend is westerly, swinging to the north at the ridge and thence descending abruptly about 1,000 feet into **Buck Canyon**. There is a fair camp and sparse feed on the east side of the creek. Now follows a steep rough climb of about 2,000 ft. in the next $5\frac{1}{2}$ mi. over a poor brushy trail which is blocked in places with down timber. Half way to the summit is a spring and a little meadow at the left of the trail. At the summit there is a small stream and a fair camp site. One mile farther is **Alta Meadow** (Alt. 9,000), one of the best camps in the region. This is the best base from which to ascend Alta Peak (see page 82). More fine views are obtained as our trail skirts the south flank of Alta Peak. **Merten Meadow** (Alt. 9,300), 2 mi. from Alta Meadow, is a good camping place. About 1 mi. farther is the junction with the **Redwood Meadow Trail** (Trail Trip 17, page 122) and a few hundred yards farther we pass through **Panther Gap** (Alt. 8,550). A gradual descent of 6 mi. through the forest takes us to **Giant Forest Village**.

WET MEADOW AND REDWOOD MEADOW TRAIL

The second route between Bearpaw Meadow and Giant Forest is longer and less scenic than the trail above outlined and passes through a hot and brushy country. In general it will be found in good condition, especially beyond the junction at Granite Creek near the Kaweah.

From **Bearpaw Meadow** a steep descent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi. by a fair woodland trail takes us to **Wet Meadow** (Alt. 6,900) which is not a desirable camp and where feed will probably be scarce. Another 500 ft. drop puts the trail at the bottom of the **Middle Fork Canyon**. The stream is forded and the trail follows down the eastern side for about 2 mi., joining the **Redwood Meadow Trail** (Trail Trip 17, page 124) at **River Valley** near the crossing of the Kaweah. From this point follow the reverse of Trail Trip 17 to **Giant Forest**, trip of $14\frac{1}{2}$ mi.

Trail Trip 17

BUCK CANYON AND REDWOOD MEADOW TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO MINERAL KING OR BIG ARROYO *via* REDWOOD MEADOW

Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Panther Gap	6	2 hr. 35	6
Junction with Alta Trail	$\frac{3}{4}$	20	$6\frac{3}{4}$
Buck Canyon Crossing	$5\frac{1}{4}$	1 hr. 45	12
Middle Fork Crossing, Junction with Tamarack Lake Trail	$2\frac{1}{2}$	1 hr.	$14\frac{1}{2}$
Redwood Meadow	$1\frac{1}{4}$	25	$15\frac{3}{4}$
Junction with Cliff Creek Trail	4	1 hr. 30	$19\frac{3}{4}$
Timber Gap	$2\frac{1}{2}$	2 hr.	$22\frac{1}{4}$
Mineral King	2	50	$24\frac{1}{4}$

The **Buck Canyon and Redwood Meadow Trail** is the only good route from Giant Forest to the upper canyon of the Middle Fork of the Kaweah. It is well constructed on easy grades but as a pleasure trail it should be avoided, for it is hot, long, and dusty with many seemingly unnecessary meanderings. This is one of the few trails upon which a canteen will be found useful.

From **Giant Forest** the **Alta Trail** (Trail Trip 7, page 82) should be followed as far as the junction $\frac{3}{4}$ mi. beyond **Panther Gap**. Here

we bear to the right and start the long $5\frac{1}{4}$ mi. grade. One mi. from the bottom, the Middle Fork Trail from Hospital Rock joins ours from the right. At **Buck Canyon** is a good camp site but no feed for animals. Fishing is good. A $2\frac{1}{2}$ mi. stretch of trail now leads around the oak and brush covered hillsides to **River Valley** at the crossing of the **Middle Fork of the Kaweah** $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. outside of the Park. This is a good camp but the nearest forage to be found is at the Park line. A dim trail joining ours from the left a short distance beyond the ford is the route to Bearpaw Meadow, Lonepine Meadow (good camp), Tamarack Lake (good camp and fishing), and Turtle Pass. It branches 1 mi. upstream and a rough foot trail to the right leads to Hamilton Lake which is famous for its large trout.

The main path crosses **Granite Creek** within a few hundred feet of the Kaweah and climbs $1\frac{1}{4}$ mi. to **Redwood Meadow** (Alt. 6,000). No forage is available as the meadow is privately owned and fenced and one should plan to camp several miles beyond. A trail to the west from the meadow crosses Cliff Creek (use ford, as bridge is rotten) leading via Sand Meadow to Atwell Mill Ranger Station on the Mineral King Road, 7 mi. distant. At a U. S. Forest Service camp in **Cliff Creek** 4 mi. above Redwood Meadow the trail forks, the left branch leading to **Big Arroyo** via Cliff Creek Canyon and Black Rock Pass and the right branch to **Mineral King** via Deer Creek and Timber Gap. Mineral King is a summer settlement at the terminus of a road from the west and supplies may be obtained there at the small temporary store.

Trail Trip 18

HOSPITAL ROCK TRAIL

GIANT FOREST TO HOSPITAL ROCK *via* "THE SWITCHBACK TRAIL"

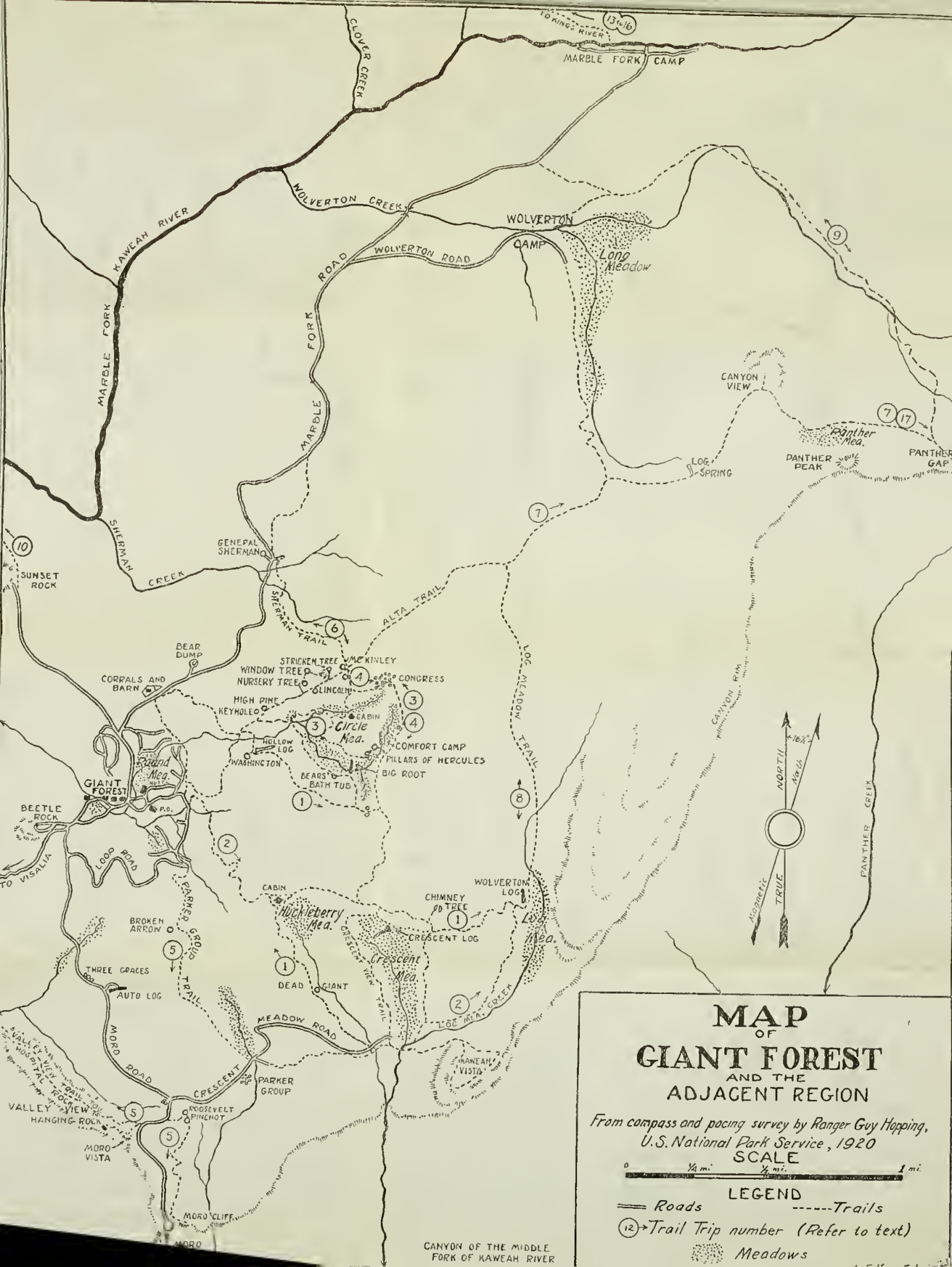
Points along trail	Miles bet. points	Walking time bet. points	Total Mileage
Giant Forest to Buena Vista Point	2	45	2
Deer Ridge	1½	30	3½
Moro Vista Creek	3	1 hr.	6½
Hospital Rock	2	40	8½

The **Hospital Rock Trail** offers a quick route into the canyon of the Middle Fork. Upon leaving the Forest many people descend this trail, sending their machines around by road to meet them at the bottom of the grade at Hospital Rock. This is the one trail to Giant Forest which remains passable almost all winter.

The trail starts from the Giant Forest Road at **Buena Vista Point**, a sharp bend in the road about 2 mi. from the village. A short descent leads to the terminus of the abandoned "Smith Grade" which intersects the Giant Forest Road 1½ mi. above the Marble Fork Bridge. Leaving this grade behind, the level trail follows westward along a steep hillside 1 mi. to **Deer Ridge** from which is an exceptionally fine view. To the right is the gorge of the Marble Fork with the cliffs of Admiration Point beyond. To the left and above is Moro Rock, and in the distance across the Middle Fork are the Castle

Rocks. A trail doubling back sharply to the left follows up the ridge to Valley View, Hanging Rock, and Moro Vista, joining the Moro Rock Road about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. from its terminus.

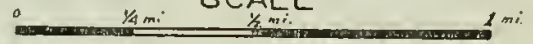
After a long steep descent by switchbacks we cross **Moro Vista Creek**. At this point is a fair camp site. Farther, the grade is easier with occasional steep pitches. A half hour descent beneath the oaks takes us to the **Middle Fork Road** just above the Hospital Rock Camp Ground. **Hospital Rock**, a huge boulder at the site of an ancient rancheria, bears some most interesting Indian pictographs. The name which seems most inappropriate, was given in 1873 (or '74) when A. Everton, a mountaineer, received a gunshot wound and was here cared for under the shelter of the rock by the Indians. The road leads 2 mi. farther eastward and is continued by a trail which joins the Redwood Meadow Trail (12 mi. from Hospital Rock) at a point about 1 mi. northeast of the Buck Canyon crossing. From Hospital Rock the road leads westward to Three Rivers, 14 mi. distant.



MAP OF GIANT FOREST AND THE ADJACENT REGION

From compass and pacing survey by Ranger Guy Hopping,
U.S. National Park Service, 1920

SCALE



LEGEND

== Roads

---- Trails

(12) Trail Trip number (Refer to text)

Meadows

CANYON OF THE MIDDLE
FORK OF KAWEAH RIVER

LEGEND

Roads
 Secondary Roads
 Trails
 R.R.
 Area in large scale map

